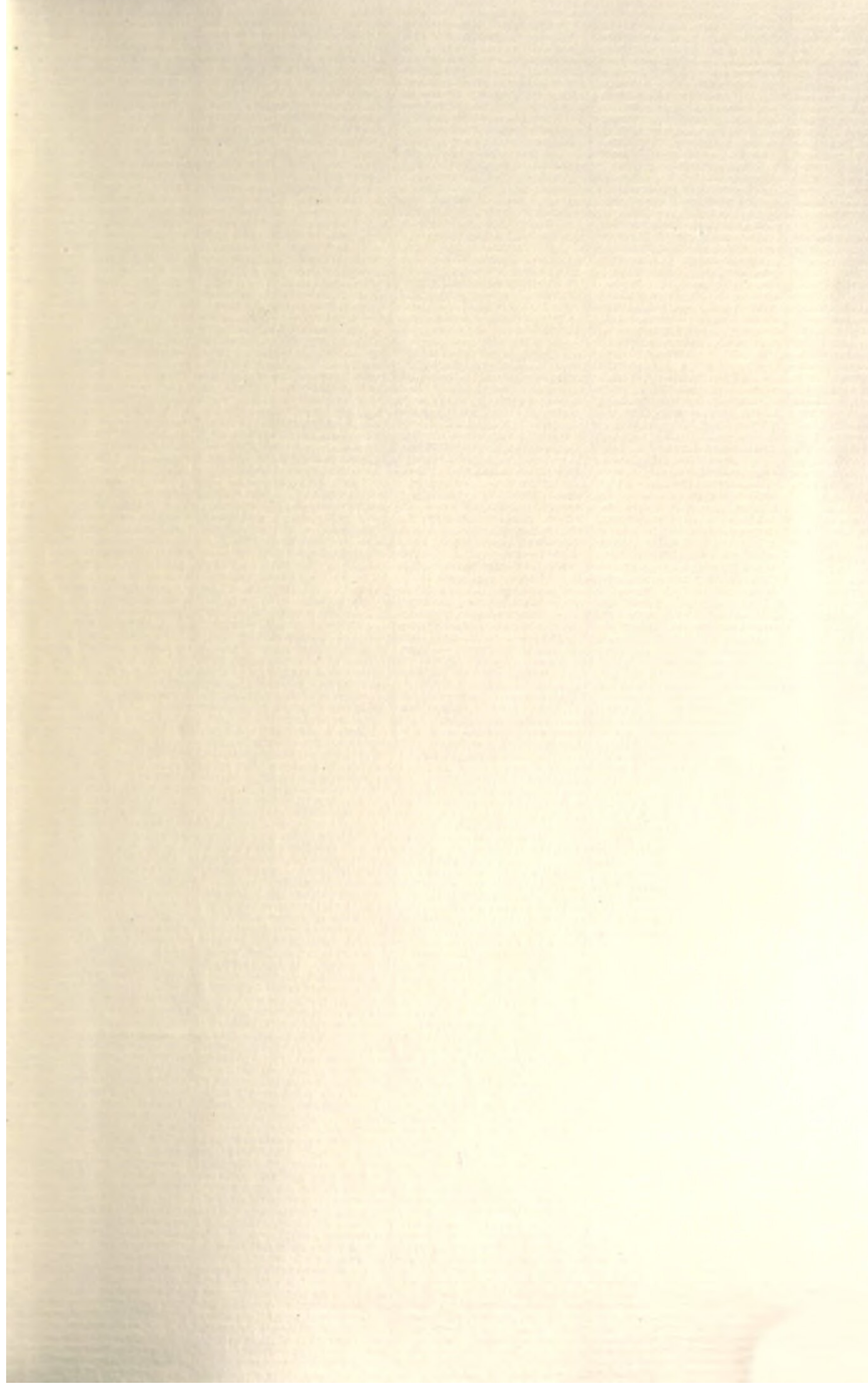




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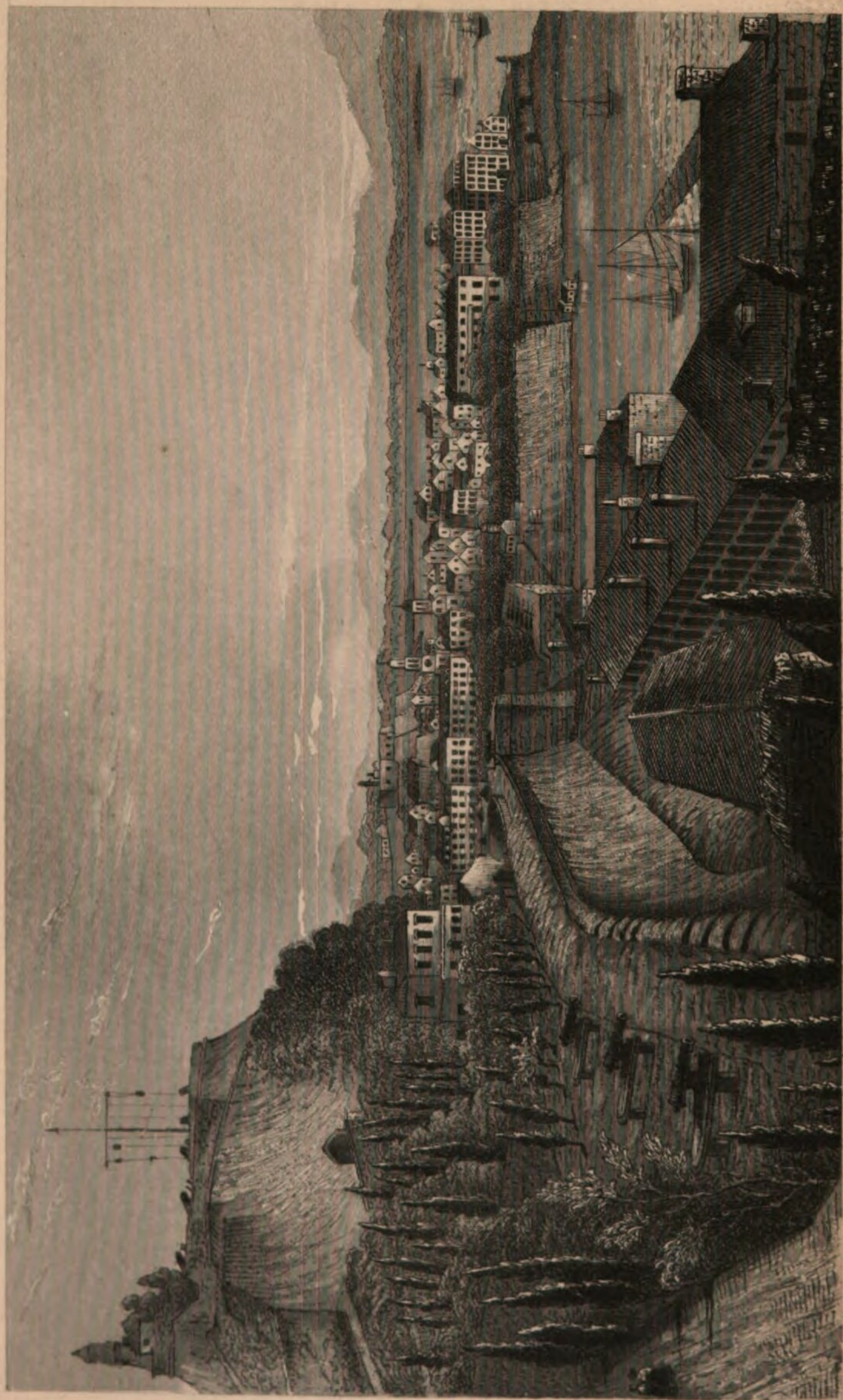
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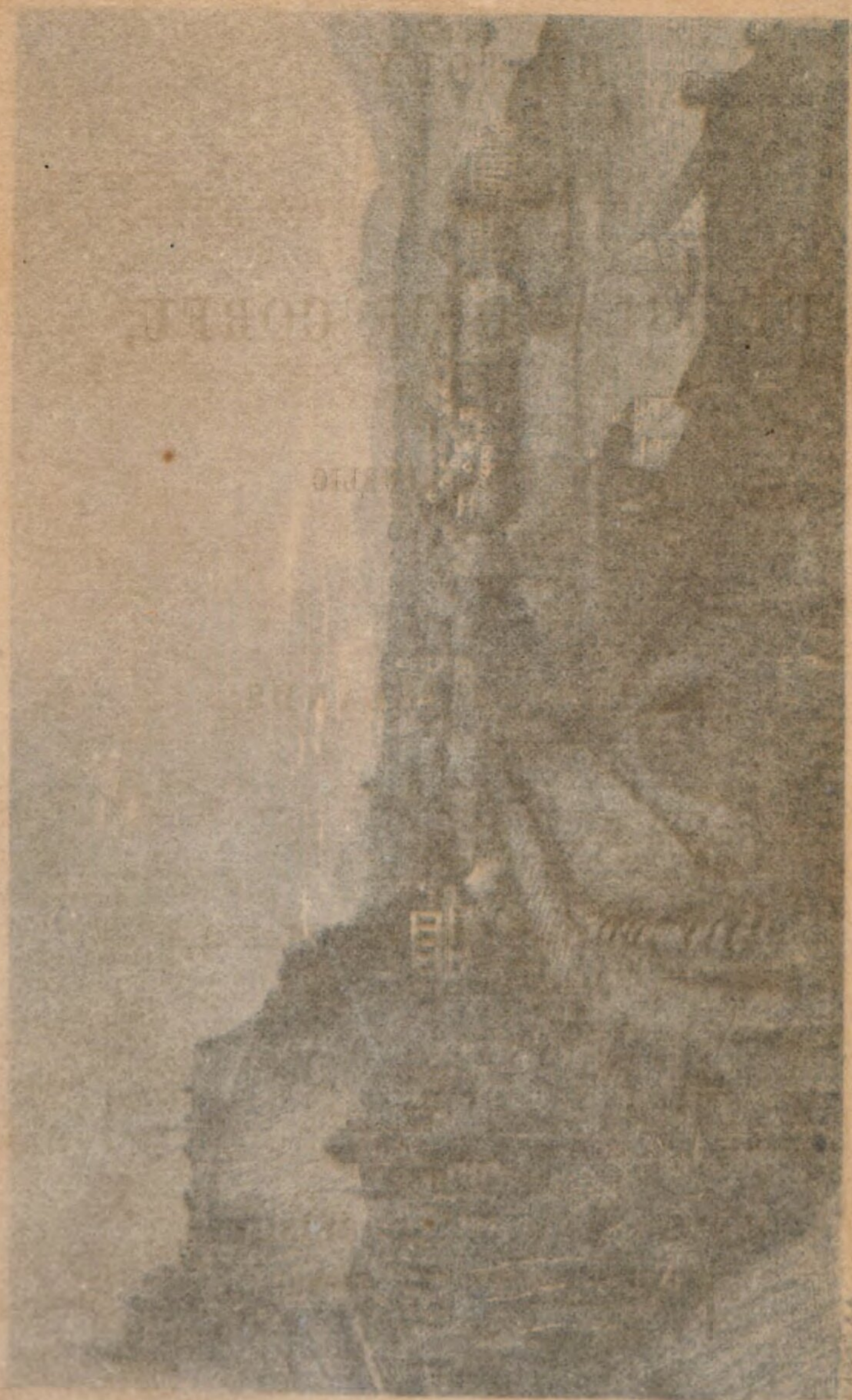
Corfu, from the Citadel

HISTORY
OF
THE ISLAND OF CORFÚ,
AND OF THE REPUBLIC
OF
THE IONIAN ISLANDS.

BY
HENRY JERVIS-WHITE JERVIS, ESQ.,
ROYAL ARTILLERY.

LONDON:
COLBURN AND CO., PUBLISHERS,
GREAT MARLBOROUGH STREET.

1852.



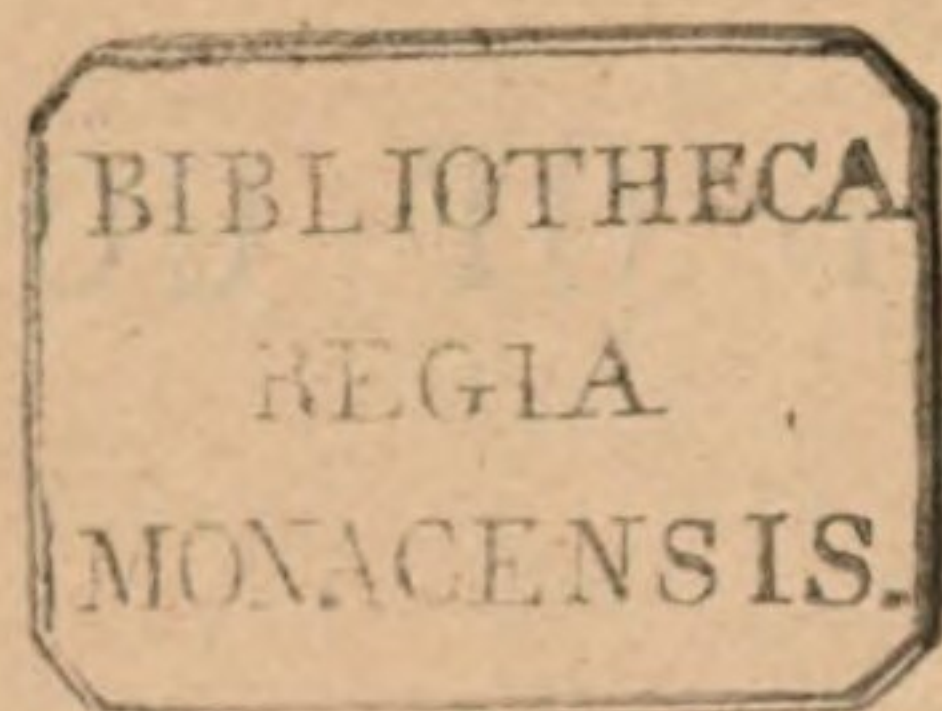
Col. John W. ...

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LONDON:

Printed by Schulze and Co., 13, Poland Street.

DEDICATED

TO

WILLIAM CECIL DE VERE, ESQ.,

LIEUTENANT, ROYAL NAVY.

P R E F A C E.

THIS present work was originally designed to embrace a history of the Ionian Islands; but it soon appeared that such an attempt would prove as impracticable as it would be to take a county out of England, Ireland, and Scotland, respectively, and unite them as the subject of a connected narrative. The incongruous character of such materials will at once become evident to any one who considers that each island, while differing from the rest in manners, customs, and even in lineage, from time immemorial followed its own peculiar course; they were even not unfrequently opposed to one another in the several contests of their more powerful neighbours: and although their final subjugation to Venetian rule might be supposed in a certain degree to have assi-

milated them, yet such was far from being the case. It was contrary to the principles of Venetian government to cement a union among their foreign possessions; in fact, a steady system of disunion was carried on, which has given rise to a state of ill-feeling, now so deeply rooted, that a long lapse of years will scarcely suffice to eradicate it. At present, nothing can be stronger than the contrast observable between the commercial population of Ithaca, and the proud independence of the Santa Mauriots; or, between the industrious peasantry of Zante and Cephalonia, who seem to have turned to the profit of industry every spot in their islands that appeared capable of cultivation, and the more than Hibernian indolence of the Corfiots.

Yet, even of these seven islands, Corfú is the only one of any importance either in a military or commercial point of view. The penetrating quickness of Napoleon fully impressed that consummate soldier with its value for strategical purposes: whilst its magnificent harbour will ever render it an object of cupidity to a commercial nation.

The only historians who have treated solely of the Ionian Islands, are Andrea di Marmora, a Corfiot noble, who wrote a history of Corfú, which was published at Venice in 1670; and two French gentlemen, MM. de St. Sauveur, and le Colonel Bory de St. Vincent. The history of Marmora is so full

of fiction, as to make it in many cases impossible to glean out the truths ; and, unfortunately, the French historians have implicitly relied upon his authority; but they have been so far of use to me as to point out the directions in which to make my researches. I confess to have been rather startled, when I first discovered in these authors, that the Romans conquered Britain and defeated the Parthians owing to assistance received from the Corcyreans ; but there was a certain charm in reading the History of Rome in such a new light. Not satisfied, however, with these little anachronisms, Marmora turns magician, and raises a whole line of imaginary princes. “ For when,” says he, “ the conquest of Constantinople placed a Frenchman on the throne of Constantinople, and entirely changed the aspect of the Grecian empire, it nowise affected Michael I., Prince of Epirus, and Duke of Corfú. He continued to reign peaceably, embellished his capital of Corfú by various edifices, erected the Castle of San Angelo, fortified Gardichi, &c.”* It is pleasant to find an author who can enter into the minor details of a small island, relative to an age in which the most important events of the Eastern empire are difficult to

* St. Vincent, *Hist. des Isles Ioniennes*, p. 180, epitomized from Marmora.

trace ; but I have felt with regret the necessity of withstanding the fair illusions, owing to the utter inability of finding anything relative to a line of Corfú Dukes in any historian of credit: nevertheless, I have to a certain extent supplied their place by giving, so far as I have been able, the true account of the Despots of Epirus.

The total absence of archives at Corfú, tending in any way to elucidate the history of that island, has left me no alternative but that of offering what will perhaps be thought a disjointed account, in an endeavour to harmonize together in one consecutive history such isolated facts as were found, relating to the subject, in the authors who have written on the countries lying in the south-east of Europe ; with some one of which Corfú has been at one time or another connected ; and, in comparing together the several versions of the story, I have been anxious to give one which might appear impartial and correct.

To St. Sauveur, I am indebted for the narrative of the siege of Corfú, in 1716, which he copied from the private papers of one of the Búlgari family, who, having been present at the siege, had kept a journal of the daily circumstances ; a very trustworthy account of the first French occupation is also to be found in the "Division du Levant," by M. le

Capitaine Bellaire, who was on the French general's staff. I have, however, carefully given my authorities for everything I have advanced; as, in matters of history, it is always of importance to know on what foundation that history rests, and to my brother, the Rev. John Jervis-White Jervis, I have to be thankful for some valuable notes relative to the derivation of the name of Corfú, and for a careful revision of this little work whilst going through the press.

FEBRUARY, 1852.

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PART I.



ANCIENT HISTORY OF CORFÚ.

HISTORY OF CORFÚ.

CHAPTER I.

FROM the heroic period of the history of Greece, the seven islands which, at present, constitute the Ionian Republic, have enjoyed a celebrity, which their small extent of surface, and the rugged features of the greater part of them, would scarce seem to justify. In an age, however, when the science of navigation, as it now exists, was altogether unknown—when the rudely-constructed barks, proceeding from Troy to the banks of the Tiber, crept along the coasts from port to port, till they reached the point of Epirus which projects nearest towards Italy—a series of islands, skirting the western coast of Greece, and affording harbours of refuge to the unskilful seamen, became the object of early atten-

tion, and assumed a character of considerable importance. Amongst the seven, Corfú stood pre-eminent. Its double-crested height of Salvador, jutting out in a north-easterly direction, broke the violence of the fierce Borer, whilst the havens of Govino and Palæopolis afforded a ready shelter to vessels that were driven in by southerly gales.

Non humilem Sasona vadis, non littora curvæ
Thessaliæ saxosa pavent, oresque malignos
Ambraciæ portus; scopulosa Ceraunia nautæ
Summa timent.

LUC. PHARS, lib. v.

It is no wonder, therefore, that the superstitious mariner of a mythic age, struck by the pleasing contrast which its verdant hills presented to the rocky mountains of Albania, should have fancied its shady groves peopled with rustic divinities and sea nymphs.

In his description of the voyage of Ulysses, when he makes the island, on his return from the western Ogygia, Calypso's retreat, the father of epic verse mentions the shady mountains of the Phæacian land, as constituting a feature which rendered it conspicuous as soon as it hove in sight, giving it the figure of a shield of rhinoceros-hide lying upon the line of the horizon.

Ὀκτώ και δεκάτῃ δ'εφάνη ὄρεα σκιάοντα
 Γαίης Φαιήκων, ὅθι τ'ἄγχιστον πέλεν αὐτῷ.
 Εἶσατο δ, ὥς ὅτε ῥινὸν ἐν ἡεροειδέϊ πόντῳ.

HOM. ODYSSEY. LIB. V, 279.

Ulysses is represented, as sailing from the west, to have sighted the island on the north coast: and, then, the mountainous line of Salvador would certainly present such an appearance as would remind the ancient warrior of the swelling belly of a shield adorned with bosses, after the fashion of the rhinoceros-hide shields in use, at the present day, in the east.

From the fertility of its soil, and the scythe-like curve of its range of hills, it was supposed to be the favourite abode of the goddess Ceres; and tales were told of her keeping concealed, there, the scythe with which she first taught the art of husbandry to the Titans. In commemoration of this circumstance, it was named Drepanê.*

It was called, also, Macria, after the fair Macris; who took refuge there, when, having incurred the wrath of Juno, for nursing the infant Bacchus, she was compelled to flee from the island of Eubœa.†

According to Diodórus, the Sicilian, Kerkyra, a

* Apoll. Rhod. Arg. iv.

† Ibid.

daughter of Oceanus and Tethys, was carried off into the island by Neptune; and she gave it the name of Korkyra.* She there bore him a son, Phæax; who ruled over the inhabitants, said to have sprung from the blood of Uranus, after he had been mutilated by his son Saturn.†

It is worthy of attention, that, during the eventful times of the Trojan war, when every city and district inhabited by the Pelasgic or Hellenic tribes, from mount Olympus to the islands of Rhodes and Crete, obtained a celebrity in heroic verse, Corcyra should have been looked upon as almost a fabulous land, beyond the sphere of the ordinary world. Homer relates, in his immortal "Odyssey," that the Phæacians, a people inhabiting Hyperêa, having been driven out by the Cyclops, emigrated, with their King whom he calls Nausithoüs, to the island of Corfú, where they built and fortified the city of Scheria. From them, it took the name of Phæacia.‡ Nausithoüs was succeeded by his son Alcinoüs;§

* Diod. Sic. B. iv, ch. iv. Apoll. Rhod. relates the same legend with respect to Corcyra Nigra, the present Curzola.

† Apoll. Rhod. Arg. iv. Hesiod. Theog. 160, 182.

‡ Odyss. B. vi.

§ He is said to have had a brother, Locrus, who was the founder of the city of Locri, in Magna Grecia, and to have been succeeded in Phæacia by Laodamas.

during whose reign it was visited by the Argonauts, on their return with the golden fleece; and they were protected by him from the vengeance of the Colchians, who had pursued them as far as Phæacia, to obtain the person of Medêa. As late as the middle of the third century, B.C., a cave, where the marriage of Jason and Medêa was said to have taken place, as well as the altars to Apollo which she first erected, were shown to the curious traveller.*

In the Naupactian verses, quoted by Pausanias, Jason and Medêa are said to have retired to Corcyra; and their son Mermeras is affirmed to have perished whilst hunting on the opposite continent.†

It was, also, the same Alcinoüs, who so hospitably welcomed the great Ulysses, after he had been discovered on the shady banks of the stream by the Princess Nausicaa; who, in the primitive manner of those times, had gone thither with her damsels

* Grote, Hist. of Greece. He quotes the Historian Timæus, who lived 260 B.C., of whom fragments only remain in works of other authors. Apoll. Rhod. also notices the same tradition:

“The sacred grot, recorded still by fame,
Bears, to this day, Medea’s honoured name.”

FAWKES’ TRANSLATION.

† Voyage to Corinth.

to cleanse the household linen. Procopius, a Byzantine historian, who visited the island in the sixth century, A.D., was shown the petrified ship of Ulysses; but his incredulity transferred it into a recent fabric of stones dedicated to Jupiter Cassius by a merchant.* Other authors have, however, taken great pains to discover the actual spots where stood the palaces, with the brazen gates, and the gardens, which Homer has so minutely described. That he was acquainted with the island, may be inferred, from his correct description of its distant perspective; but, in an age when intercourse between maritime states was very limited, it was as easy to describe gardens and raise palaces, as it was for Tasso to picture the abode of the famous Armida in the then unknown regions of Palestine.

Still, though much was left to the imagination of the poet, in the description which the *Odyssey* gives us, of the kingdom of Alcinoüs; there appears to be some foundation left for the opinion that the story, though embellished, was not pure fiction. It is probably as authentic as the "*Iliad*;" and the foreign names, which occur in the two cases, may, perhaps, sufficiently vindicate their latent truthfulness, although mixed up along with others of a

* Procopius, *de bello Gothico*, iv, 22.

Grecian derivation, and, apparently too, of the poet's invention. The names "Hekabê," or "Hecuba," and "Hektor," do but scantily veil the Phœnician "Huk-bah,"* and "Huk-thor."† And, although the greater number of those attributed by Homer to the Phæacian chiefs are mere allusions to the nautical skill which distinguished that people beyond all others of the period,‡ and which, by the way, was a further characteristic by which to identify them with the Phœnician colonists; yet, does it not appear that, in the name of Arêtê, the wife of Alcinoüs, lurks the Shemitic or Phœnician "*Háaritha*," "*laborious*," a suitable name for a thrifty housewife?

From the scanty information, which has descended to us, on which any reliance can be placed, it is difficult to trace the source from which the Island of Corfú was originally peopled. The fragment, already noticed, from Diodórus, seems to disguise, under a mythological dress, the fact that the island was colonized from a considerably distant region beyond the seas. Possessing no remains of Cyclopeian architecture, we have not sufficient data to indicate

* חֶקְבָּה, implying the *exercise of jurisdiction or law*. In Scripture, names of a similar form occur: "Aholi-bah," "Hephzi-bah."

† חֶקְתוֹר, signifying, perhaps, the *investigation of right*.

‡ Odyss. vi, 270; and vii, 108.

with precision the quarter from which their neighbours,* the primæval Phæacians, emigrated to Corfú, or to show where to look for the fair region of Hyperêa, whence they came. But it would be worth considering, whether the Homeric "*Hyperêa*" is not, in fact, the Biblical "*Arám*," the *Highland*; by which designation the mountainous regions of Syria were distinguished from the "*Chenáñn*," or *Lowland*.†

Bochart derives the two names of Scheria and Kerkyra, from the Phœnician‡ words "scara,"

* Hom. Odyss. vi. 4, 5.

† It would be curious to indentify the three Cyclops, Arges, Brontes, and Steropes, mentioned by Hesiod, with the three sons of Anak, Sheshai, Ahiman, and Talmai, whom Caleb the son of Jephunneh expelled from Kiriath-Arbáa or "the city of Arbáa," who is described (Joshua xv. 13, 14) as the ancestor of the Anakim; and "*Arges*" is, singularly enough, the translation of "*Sheshai*," both words signifying "*white*;" but, although the resemblance of the names ceases there, yet, the aggressive character which Homer ascribes to the Cyclops (Odyss. vi. 5; and vii. 206), and his mentioning them as being of a giant race, strikingly agrees with the Scripture description of the Anakim (Numbers, xiii, 28, 33. Deut. ix. 2), the ancient possessors of the Phœnician territory.

‡ It is said by Le Clerc, that the Corcyreans learned their letters of the Phœnicians, and used them with very little variation; which afterwards appearing, these letters

“commerce,”* and “carcara,” “abundance;”† the latter, however, bears only an apparent resemblance to the Greek sounding of the name “Kerkeera,” as is easily seen, to an Orientalist, by the difference of the consonants. Perhaps a better, or, at least, a more probable, explanation may be given of the origin of the ancient name “Korkyra,” with its modern descendant, “Corfú.” For it is not a little remarkable, that the names “Kerkyra,” “Korinthus,” as well as “Karchêdôn,” the Greek name of “Karthago,” have all the same component, *Kar, Ker, Kor, Kyr*, evidently identical with the oriental “Kîr,”‡ which

were called Phœnician, from the Phœnicians bringing them into Greece. Timon calls them the Phœnician characters of Cadmus; and Callimachus also attributes them to Cadmus, from whom the Greeks derive their written books: Plutarch, likewise, calls them Phœnician or Punic letters, in his 9th book and 3rd problem of his “Symposiacs.” — *Gentleman's Magazine*, p. 407, for November 1818.

* Hebrew, “Séchér,” שֶׁכֶּר.

† Compare Gesenius' Heb. Thesaurus under כָּרָה, “carah,” emit.

‡ Heb. קִיר, a “fortified place,” or “stronghold.” The name of Korinth, built at the foot of the lofty fort of Akrokorinthus, may therefore signify originally “the maritime stronghold;” if, as there seems room to suspect, the termination *inthus* is related to the Latin “insula,” Heb. יָאִ,.

appears* in such names as “Kîr-moab,” “Kîr-hérés,” “Kiryath†-Arbáă,” “Kiryath-Báal,” &c. May not the ancient name “Korkyra,”‡ or “Kerkyra,” be a reduplicated form§ of this *Kor*, *Kar*, *Ker*, or *Kîr*? and may not the modern “Korfú” be a compound of the ancient “*Kor*,” with a reminiscence of the original Phæacia, viz.: Κορφου, i.e., Κορκύρα Φαιηκῶν?

While on this philological inquiry, we may take a passing glance at *Karchédôn*, and view, as it were through the haze of antiquity, the original *ai* (pronounced *ee*), and the Greek “*nēsus* :” for the ancients, especially the orientals, called islands and maritime coasts of a continent by one generic name. The same component, probably, enters into the names of the islands “*Zacy-nthus*” (now Zante) and “*Lebinthus*,” a small island off the coast of Asia Minor, in lat. 37°, long. 44°, 40’.

* See Isaiah, xv, 1; Jeremiah, xlviii, 31, 36; Genesis, xxiii, 2; Joshua, xv, 60. Burckhardt describes Kîr-moab under its modern name of *Kerrek*, as having its site on a lofty rock, with an extensive and commanding prospect, and as being altogether a very remarkable fort.—*Travels in Syria*.

† The LXX write Καριαθ, for the Heb. “Kiriath.”

‡ Though the name is written “Kerkyra” in the Greek authors, it seems that all the extant coins have ΚΟΡΚΥΡΑ, “Korkyra.”

§ Other instances of the reduplicated form are afforded, in the name of the Pharphar, more correctly “Parpar” (פַּרְפַּר from the root פָּרַר), mentioned in the second

Kîr-chittim, a large and well fortified city, founded by a Phœnician colony in the transmarine regions of *Chittim*, the general name for the coasts of the Mediterranean, in the dialect of Canaan. May not, also, the Arabic verb, “*ajaa*” or “*agaa*,” denoting *flight*, with the help of the well-known affix *th*, be thought sufficiently to justify the identification of “*Kar-chêdôn*” with “*Kar-thago*?”

Imperium Dido Tyriâ regit urbe profecta,*
Germanum *fugiens*. Longa est injuria, longæ
Ambages.
Devenêre locos ubi nunc *ingentia* cernes
Mænia, surgentemque novæ *Carthaginis* ARCEM.

Book of Kings, v, 12; and the names of towns, “’Aro’er” (עֲרוֹר from the root עָרַר), mentioned by Moses, in the Book of Deuteronomy, and now called “’Ar’âeer” (عرعاير, see Burckhardt’s “Travels in Syria”); “’Ad’adah” (עֲדָדָה from the root עָדַד), mentioned in Joshua, xv, 22; and Karkor (קַרְקֹר from the root Pilp. of קָרַר. See Ges. Thes.), mentioned in the Book of Judges, viii, 10; LXX Vatic. Καρκὰρ. Eusebius, commenting on this verse, says: Καὶ ἐστὶ νῦν Καρκαρία φρούριον ἀπέχον Πέτρας τῆς πόλεως μόνην ἡμέραν. “Carcaria is a fort, distant one day’s journey from the city of Petra.”

* Æneid. B. II.

Although

Mercatique solum, facti de nomine Byrsam,

looks like an embellishment of the poet; for the citadel of Carthage was, no doubt, originally called, in the Phœnician, Botzrah, or Bozrah (*fort*, or *stronghold*); and the Greeks, confounding this with their own word “Byrsa,” an “ox-hide,” made it the foundation for the story of measuring the territory with strips of that material.

A disposition of the Phœnician colonists to give to their cities the title of *fort*, may also be pointed out in the names of Irish towns; if we admit, as it is well known to be a general belief among antiquaries, that the Green Isle was, at a very remote period, colonized by the enterprising Tyrians. There seems, indeed, no reason to question the identity of the “*Kil*,” which is found in so many names* of Irish towns (*Kildare*, *Kilkenny*, *Killarney*, *Kilmore*, &c.), with the Shemitic word “*Kilāah*,” a “*rocky fort*;” a word now known only in the Arabic, but which has its representative in Hebrew, and bears the marks of a very high antiquity.†

* The Arabic word “*Kalaat*” (for *Kilāah*, ^{كَلَاة}) is, in a similar manner, prefixed to many names of places, in Burckhardt’s “*Travels in Syria*.”

† That the Heb. verb “*Kalāā*” (קָלַע), signifying to “*sling*

As it is well known that this enterprising nation has formed settlements in various parts of the world, from Cythêra and the coast of Sicily to Marseilles,* and the British isles; it is far from a stone," and the noun "Kéláă" (קֵלָעַ) a "sling," are secondary derivations from the Arabic "Kilăah" (قِلْعَة), a "rock," and thence a "fort;" will, I think, appear a legitimate inference, to one who reflects upon the mode in which words acquire new imports. Since the gradation of ideas, from rock to stone, to the act of projecting a stone, and the instrument by which it is projected, is both easy and natural. The Hebrew word, which occurs as early as the first Book of Samuel and the Book of Job, affords presumptive evidence, among many other instances, in favour of the superior antiquity of the Arabic over its cognate dialect, the Hebrew; an opinion supported by a highly distinguished author, Lieut.-Colonel Chesney.—*Expedition to Euphr. and Tigr.*, vol. ii. p. 85.

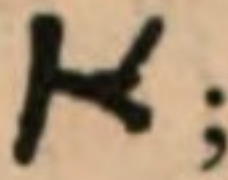
* In fact, on comparing the various names of *Phœnice*, *Pœnic* or *Punic*, *Phœacia*, and *Phocæa* (not far from which latter place we find the port of *Phœnicus*), we can scarcely think there is room to doubt of their original identity. If a suggestion might be ventured, in the absence of a more certain etymology, we might look for the common root in the words of Shemitic origin, Hebrew "*Phéah*" (פְּהֵא) a "region," and "*Pōnéh*" (פְּנֵה) a "direction," with the Chaldæo-Persian adjectival termination *oc*, or *āk*, signifying *great*, or implying *superlativeness*; as in "*Nisroc*," "*great*

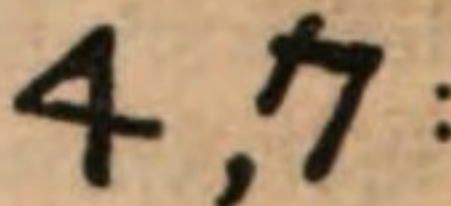
improbable that, attracted by the convenient situation of the island of Corfú for trading with either side of the Adriatic, they should have founded a colony upon it. The tradition quoted by Apollonius of Rhodes,* of a body of Colchians having settled there, appears, also, in confirmation of an eastern origin: and, on many of the ancient tablets which have been discovered in Corfú, there are figures identical with those found on tombs, at Xanthus, by Mr. Fellowes,† and very closely resembling the arrow-headed letters discovered by Mr. Layard in Babylonia.‡

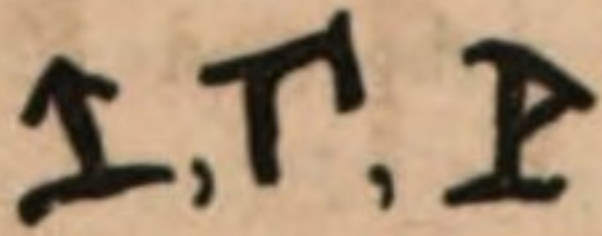
eagle," the idol worshipped by the Ninevites; "*Pharnák*" (Pharnaces) "*most magnificent*."

* Argon. B. iv.

† Journal in Asia Minor, by C. Fellowes.

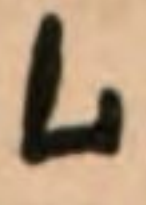
‡ In a slab found at Nimroud, one of the letters is shaped ; and on some Babylonian bricks,

supposed to be of Nebuchadnezzar's time, :

now, the figures found on the slabs at Corfú are shaped ; the first bearing a strong re-

semblance to that on the slab at Nimroud, whilst the other two are merely those on the Babylonian bricks turned on the reverse.—See Mr. Layard's "*Nineveh*," vol. ii. pp. 66, 179, 166. [In

From the scanty memorials which have been handed down to us, it is difficult to obtain more than a very general idea of the political institutions of ancient Corcyra. The people appear to have been always divided into two distinct classes, which, by most historians, have been termed "oligarchic," and "democratic;" but the present acceptation of these terms would fail to convey a correct idea of the state of society, as it existed among them: for both these factions were equally republican. It seems, rather, to have been a distinction of the wealthy with their connections, on the one hand; and the labouring classes, or commonalty, on the other. There was no aristocracy or privileged rank, beyond what money could confer: and all public questions were decided by a majority of the people; the actual government being carried on by a Prytanis, or president, and a certain fixed number of senators.

In the Celtiberian alphabet, , , and  are in very common use, and also , with the second perpendicular not quite so long as in the Corcyrean. In the Cilician also, there is the , and  reversed.—*Mionnet, desc. de méd. ant. Pl. 16, 17, 18, 22.*

In consequence of the insecurity occasioned by the frequent attacks of the barbarians from the continent, who, from time immemorial, seem to have been either mercenaries or plunderers, the people lived in the city, the fields being cultivated by slaves. These latter, in the first instance were, most probably, the subdued aborigines of the country; but, in the course of time, their number was recruited by purchases, and by prisoners of war. Although slave labour is never so productive as that of the husbandman, still, the excessive fruitfulness of the soil amply compensated for this disadvantage: and the island became celebrated for its wines; which Xenophon has described, as being of a peculiarly fine flavour; and on which they bestowed much care.* So generous was the produce, that it not only yielded abundant labour to the inhabitants, but, also, afforded to the numerous crews of Iphicrates' triremes an ample employment. The citizens who enjoyed, at all times, a reputation for wealth, amassed colossal fortunes by successful trading: which appears to have been carried on to a considerable extent, requiring docks and storehouses. Their commercial interest induced the body of the people to prefer an alliance

* Xen. Hellen. Lib. 6.

with Athens, to that of Sparta: and, although the former, in course of time, turned the alliance into a subjugation, yet, the connection, which was thereby established, with the most civilized city of the age, must have eminently conduced to the internal improvement of Corcyra. Its youth frequented the Olympic Games* and the schools of that capital; and one of them, Ptoleucus, pupil to Critias the Athenian, has been transmitted to posterity as a master in the art of brass-casting. Their mansions partook of the luxury introduced by Pericles: and the only remains of a temple, that have been discovered, agree, as to their peculiarities and proportions, with the Parthenon and the temple of Theseus. Its situation was discovered in a ravine, at Kardacchio, and, about a hundred feet above the level of the sea; and the aspect of the temple was east-south-east. It was of the Doric form of architecture;† and had but one entrance. The columns

* 59 Ol. Archilocus 171 Ol. Parmenicus } were victors.
 61 „ Agatharch 173 „ „ }

† The Doric temple has a large square base, forming but one mass with the columns, a singularity of which Mr. Dodwell never observed any other example. Here are also the remains of an ancient building, apparently the cella of a temple, composed of parallelogram blocks of moderate dimensions, and now converted into a church. Over the entrance of another church, built by the Emperor Jovianus,

were 11 feet 3·25 in height ; the diameter at the base being 2 feet ; the upper diameter of the shaft, 1 foot 6 ; the height of entablature, 3 feet 10·75. The roof was covered with tiles ; many of which had proper names stamped upon them, such as Aristomenes, Damon, Aristæus, Philonidas, Aristocles, Eupolemus, and Pantheus.* From the circumstance of a bronze four-spoked wheel having been discovered, it is supposed to have been dedicated to Nemesis, the impersonated principle of divine retribution. At the distance of ten feet from the sides of the edifice, two wells were found to exist ; they lead to subterranean aqueducts, about six feet in height, and two and a half in breadth, cut in the sand-stone, and which have been explored to a distance of fourteen hundred feet.

At Verona, there is a tablet which is supposed to relate to this temple and the wells. Although much obliterated, enough remains to show that it commemorates the sanction of the judges and people of Corcyra to the construction of certain public works. It details the prices of tin, lead, copper, cartage,

is the well-known inscription, in which the enthusiastic Iconoclast boasts of having destroyed the temples and altars of the Greeks.—*Wheler*, vol. i.

* See Layard's "Nineveh, and its Remains," vol. ii. p. 187, as to the inscriptions on the Babylonian tiles.

excavation, and workmanship; the expense of a brazen serpent; of nitre for the altar; the erection of an obelisk, and of a retaining wall by Metrodórus. It states, also, the renewal of the roof of the temple, the turning off of the water-courses, lest the force of the springs should injure the retaining wall: and it intimates that the stream was to be diverted from the temple toward the docks and storehouses.

Besides the direction of the public works, the magistrates had the power of granting the freedom of the city to foreigners; several tablets commemorative of which have come down to our time. The enactment was worded in this form:

“It pleased the Assembly to elect, to the freedom of the city of the Corcyræans, Philistion, son of Theodorus, Locrian, both himself and his descendants; and to decree that they should have the right to acquire possessions in land and houses, as well as all other privileges that have been awarded to other public friends and benefactors; and that the record of this nomination be inscribed on a copper tablet, and put up in such place as the Committee of Arbitration shall approve of. The expense to be defrayed out of the public treasury.

“PHILISTION, SON OF THEODORUS, LOCRIAN.”

The temples of Corcyra were numerous. Thucydides mentions those of the Dioscori, Juno, and Alicinoüs. Jupiter Cassius was especially venerated; his temple at Kassópo being in high repute for sanctity. On many of the coins are found the emblems of Neptune, Minerva, Bacchus, Venus, Apollo, and Hercules. The temple of Dodona was indebted to the Corcyræans for two of its finest ornaments: one, a brazen bull;* the other, the brazen kettles which were used in delivering the oracles. These consisted of two pillars, on one of which was placed a kettle, upon the other, a boy holding in his hand a whip, with lashes of brass, which, being by the violence of the wind struck against the kettle, caused a continual sound; whence came the proverb, Δωδωνᾶιον χαλκεῖον, ἐπὶ τῶν μικρολογούντων.†

* Mionnet, desc. des Médailles Antiques.

† Pausanias. Voyage to Corinth.

‡ Epitom. Strabo. vii.

CHAPTER II.

THE earliest authentic information that we possess, relative to the present island of Corfú, the ancient Korkyra, scarcely reaches to an antiquity more remote than towards the end of the seventh century, B.C., when we find it occupied by some Epirots of the tribe of the Liburni, and by a small number of emigrants from Eretria.* About this period, owing to the royalty having been abolished at Corinth, the subsequent troubles which arose in that State, necessitated considerable bodies of the citizens to abandon the land of their birth, and to establish colonies, under various leaders. Amongst other such expeditions, one, under Chersicrates, of the race of the Heracleids, sailed for Corcyra [B.C. 708], where,

* Thirlwall's Greece, vol. ii.

after driving out the Eretrians, they settled, upon the promontory which is formed by the marshy bay of Palæopolis, to which they gave the name of Hyllaïc, in memory of their supposed ancestor, Hyllus. The spot was one in every way suited to the wants of a colony in that uncivilised age; as the increase of commerce, and, consequently, of wealth, made it highly advantageous that a city should be situated upon the sea-coast; while, on the other hand, the constant exposure to attack, from their more barbarous neighbours, rendered it desirable that it should be so situated, on a neck of land, as to be easily fortified.* But, although the spirit of commerce had begun to develop itself, naval architecture was still in its infancy; and the soft sloping shore of the Hyllaïc bay was admirably adapted to facilitate the drawing-up and launching again of their galleys. The neighbourhood, besides, afforded ample supplies of spring water.

The colony flourished rapidly, and appears to have continued in relations of amity with the parent state; if we may judge from the circumstance, that about the year 625, B.C., in connection with her, it founded the cities of Epidamnus and Gylacia,† in Illyria. Its independance was, however, for some

* Thucyd. B. i.

† Afterwards Apollonia.

years endangered by the grasping ambition and vindictiveness of Periander, tyrant of Corinth. During a reign of forty years, he brought the island under complete subjection; and, ultimately, gave the government of it to his son Lycophron, who, in consequence of the domestic calamities which had been occasioned by Periander's crimes, was anxious to leave Corinth. Some years after, father and son having become reconciled they agreed, in token of renewed friendship, to exchange thrones: but Periander was so feared at Corcyra, that, to prevent his arrival, the irritated citizens put Lycophron to death. In revenge for the murder of his son, the tyrant ordered three hundred noble Corcyrean youths, who were at the time residing in his territory, to be conveyed to Sardis, as a present to Alyattes II, and an addition to that Asiatic's establishment of eunuchs; a description of slaves which have always been in high demand for the service of the seraglio with the voluptuous princes of the East. Fortunately for them, however, the ship which carried them was obliged to put into the Island of Samos, and the Samians having, on inquiry, discovered the barbarous design of the despot, liberated the young captives, and sent them back in safety to their own country.*

* Herod. B. iii.

Three years after the death of Periander, [B.C. 582] fresh commotions having occurred at Corinth, the Corcyreans seized the opportunity to throw off all dependance upon the mother city; and it is related, that the ill-feeling between the two States increased to such an extent, that a naval engagement ensued.* Though it was indecisive, the Corcyreans had discovered their naval strength, and, at the period of the Persian invasion [B.C. 490], they had become the first maritime power of Greece; so much so, that about that time their assistance was sought by the Syracusans, against Hippocratês, tyrant of Gela [B.C. 485].†

* Thirlwall's Greece, vol. i. The first action at sea, known to the Greeks, according to Thucyd. B. i., took place between the Corinthians and Corcyreans; but it seems doubtful whether he intended this engagement, as he expressly notes the date of that occurrence as being just 260 years before the time when he wrote. Now, as Thucydides continued his history only to the twenty-first year of the Peloponnesian war, and as the date which he here assigns occurs at the beginning of his work, the "present time" to which he refers, probably cannot be placed later than the twentieth year of the war, which would be about 412 B.C.; and the period of 260 years would carry us back to the year 672 B.C., or thirteen years before Cypselus usurped the government of Corinth.

† Thucyd. B. i., states, that the tyrants of Sicily and

When Xerxes [B.C. 481] had finished his enormous preparations for the conquest of Greece, and when it was known that he had reached Sardis, ambassadors were sent from Athens to seek the alliance of Corcyra; but the governors of the island, which had already obtained the reputation of being an intriguing and factious State, amused them with flattering promises, whilst they stationed a fleet of sixty vessels near Pylos, off the coast of Sparta, to await the issue of events; on the one hand, assuring Xerxes of their unwillingness to oppose him, and on the other, pretending to the Greeks that contrary winds alone had prevented their taking a share in the engagement at Salamis.* After the destruction of the hosts of Xerxes, the indignant confederates vowed vengeance upon the Corcyreans, for having refused to join the common cause, and they were restrained from carrying their threats of extermination into actual effect, only by the remonstrances of Themistocles, who was apprehensive that such a proceeding would plunge Greece into even greater calamities than she would have suffered, had she succumbed under the weight of the Persian tiger.†

the Corcyreans, afforded the only instances of naval strength in Greece, previous to the time of Xerxes.

* Herod. B. vii.

† It is perhaps not generally known, that "*Xerxes*" is

Yet, when a few years after, Themistocles sought refuge in Corcyra, on being accused by the Lacedemonians of maintaining a treasonable correspondence with the Asiatic, he was made painfully conscious that, while acting under the persuasion that they would shew themselves mindful of the great service he had rendered them, he had been placing too con-

from the Zend, or ancient Persian, very guttural word KHSHÊR-SHÊ, discovered in the Persepolitan inscriptions (Niebuhr II., pl. 24 g.) by the acumen of Grotefend (Heeren's I deen I., 2 tab. IV.), and thus written

<<𐎧𐎫.	𐎧𐎧.	𐎧𐎫𐎠.	𐎧𐎫.	𐎠𐎧.	𐎧𐎧.	𐎧𐎫.	𐎧
KH.	SH.	W.	Ê.	R.	SH.	Ê.	:

The W, which appears (as in modern Persian, *e. g.*, "Khwâstun," pronounced "Khâstun," "*to wish*") to have been very slightly pronounced, is retained in the Hebrew transcript, AKHASHWÊROSH, "Ahasuerus," (where the Hebrew word seems to have affected the Greek termination in *oc*). But, in Esther x, 1, it is written without the W, and, apparently, as it was pronounced. The modern representative of the name is *Shér-shah* شیر شاه, *Tiger-king*; a title which has been, in all ages, adopted by Eastern despots. (See Reland's Dissertat. II., p. 260.) *Haider*, *Lion*, was a favourite name with the Môghuls, as was *Arslân* with the Tartars. The last King of Ceylon was called *Raja Singh*, *Lion-king*. Among the Sikhs, also, the title of *Singh* is honorific. Runjeet Sing, *the Angry-lion*, must have felt that the spirit of his ancestors still animated him, in his rapid and irresistible career of conquest.

finding a reliance upon the honour or intrepidity of the Corcyreans. Suffering the duties of hospitality and gratitude to yield before their apprehensions lest, in extending their protection to him, they should be exposing themselves to the joint resentment of the Athenians and Lacedemonians, the dastardly islanders carried him back to the opposite shore*, where the King, Admetus, was his personal enemy, in consequence of the success with which the Athenian commander had, on a former occasion, exerted his influence to prevent that Prince from obtaining the alliance of the Attic Republic.

Although Themistocles had, for a time, saved his country from the evils he dreaded, the rivalry which had been kindled between Athens and Sparta, during the Persian invasion, was yet to break out into a conflagration, by means of that very state which he had interfered to save from destruction. The two leading governments of Greece, as representatives of the democratic and oligarchic interests, had created,

* Thucyd. B. 1. It was also said that the Corcyreans were indebted to him for having awarded to them twenty talents, and the moiety of the colony of Leucas, which was in dispute between them and the Corinthians (Plutarch, Vit Them.) But the conduct of the Leucadians, during the Peloponnesian war, clearly shews them to have been solely a Corinthian colony.

by their daily increasing jealousy, a party spirit throughout every city and State, which ripened, with the course of events, into seditions of an atrocious description, in which Corcyra and her colonies took the lead.

The relations which existed between colonies and their metropolis, or mother city, in the earlier times of Grecian emigration, were of a peculiar nature. Although independent of the parent country, and enjoying a government of their own, yet they were bound to it by ties of reverence and kindred race. They were under obligation of paying to the metropolis certain customary honours, on the occasion of religious solemnities and sacrifices, and to assist her, if called upon, in case of need. If, at any time, the colony wished itself to found a new settlement, it added dignity to the formation of the proposed city, if the leader of the emigrants was a citizen from the metropolis. But although this respect was paid to the original race, yet they were not supposed to interfere in the affairs of this new settlement, which paid to its immediate mother country the same honours, that the latter yielded to the metropolis. At the same time, colonies were not supposed to reverence the parent State longer than she dealt justly and fairly by them; for, if a colony were injured or wrongly used by the parent country, the

tie became broken, and the two States were thereafter alienated from one another: the colonists being sent out not as subjects, but as free men, having equal rights with those who remained at home.*

At Epidamnus, after a long series of tumults, the nobles had been expelled from the town by the populace. Uniting with the Taulantii, a tribe of Epirots who inhabited that part of the country, they in their turn so harassed the commonalty [B.C. 436] that the latter, driven to the last extremities, sent an embassy to Corcyra soliciting assistance. Slighted by the Corcyreans, whose government was oligarchic, they consulted the oracle of Delphi, and were advised by it to seek succour of Corinth, which they did. The unfriendly relations which had arisen between that State and the Corcyreans had still been increasing for some years, chiefly because the latter, priding themselves on their wealth and naval power, had neglected to pay the customary respect due by colonies on religious solemnities.† Pleased, therefore, at this opportunity of humbling them, the Corinthians raised a body of troops for the relief of Epidamnus, [435 B.C.] which they sent by land as far as Apollonia, lest they should be cut off by the Corcyrean fleet.

* Thucyd. B. i.

† Ibid.

But when it became known at Corcyra that Corinth had interfered in the affairs of Epidamnus, a fleet of forty triremes was despatched to demand of the citizens of that town the expulsion of their new allies, and this mandate not being complied with, the town was besieged both by sea and land.

Corinth, at the news of these hostilities, formed an alliance with the neighbouring republics; and, by their assistance, equipped a fleet of seventy-five triremes; of which, ten were furnished by the Leucadians, and four by the Paléans of Cephalenia.* This fleet sailed with two thousand heavy-armed infantry, for the purpose of raising the siege of Epidamnus; but it was met off Actium† by the Corcyrean fleet, of eighty galleys; and an engagement ensued in which the Corinthians were defeated, with a loss of fifteen ships. The victors, on their return, erected a trophy at Leukimmê;‡ and put to death all their prisoners, with the exception of the Corinthian citizens, who were kept in bonds. During this time, the siege of Epidam-

* The remains of Palê are situated about half a mile from Lixuri.

† The present Gulf of Arta.

‡ The present Alefkimo. Although so pronounced by the moderns, it is nearly written the same as the original, Αλεύκιμο.

nus had been steadily carried on. Situated on the south side of a projecting tongue of land, with a lofty range of mountains rising behind it, it had been so carefully blockaded by the Corcyreans from the sea, and the Barbarians on the landside, that despairing of succour, it surrendered the same day that witnessed the defeat of the allies off Actium. Having now become masters of the sea, the Corcyreans devastated Leucas, and burnt Cyllênê, a seaport town of Elis, in retaliation for the assistance it had afforded to the Corinthians.

Undismayed by her losses, Corinth made every exertion to repair them. Money was borrowed; triremes were built; and rowers hired all over the Peloponnesus: whilst the Elêans, in revenge for the burning of Cyllênê, invaded and plundered Corcyra.* Growing alarmed at these symptoms of a protracted warfare, the Corcyreans sent an embassy to Athens to obtain the alliance of that republic. The request was discussed in two assemblies of the people; and,

* Pausanias, B. vi. 24. To commemorate this expedition, the Elêans built a porch after the Doric order, with a tenth part of the spoils. It had a twofold row of columns; one of which reached to the forum, and the other to the parts beyond the forum. In the middle, there were no pillars; but it was supported by a wall with statues on either side. The porch was called Korkyraïka.

notwithstanding the eloquence of some Corinthian envoys, it was granted [B.C. 433], whether from a desire to humble Corinth, or with a view to increase the Attic influence in Greece, by establishing friendly relations with a State possessing so powerful a navy as was that of Corcyra; which, besides, from its advantageous situation would afford a most convenient harbour for Athenian fleets on their passage to Sicily;* a consideration of the first importance, in an age when all sea voyages were made by coasting. On the departure, therefore, of the Corinthian ambassadors, the Athenian Government sent ten triremes to assist their new allies. At the same time, from an anxiety to avoid a rupture with the Peloponnesian confederacy, the commanders of the squadron received strict orders to avoid an engagement, unless a descent should be actually made on the island of Corcyra. Upon their arrival, the Corcyrean fleet, consisting of one hundred and ten triremes, exclusive of the Athenian force, put to sea; and formed their naval camp on one of the Sybóta,† a small group of islands near the continent, facing the southern part of Corcyra: the

* Thucyd. B. i. Diod. Sicul. B. xii. c. 7.

† The present Syvóta. The ancient β being pronounced v.

land forces, together with a thousand Zacynthian* auxiliaries being encamped on the headland of Leukimmê. In the meanwhile, the Corinthians having increased their fleet to one hundred and fifty triremes,† with a force of forty thousand men, set sail for Chímerium,‡ [432 B.C.] a port of Thesprotia, where they established their naval camp.

With the morning dawn, the Corcyrean fleet was seen advancing in a line of three squadrons, under the command of Míciades, Æsimides, and Eurybatus, the Athenian squadron being on the right wing. The onset was vigorous, and the battle was maintained, on either side, with much courage though but little skill. Even for that age, both fleets were equipped very inartificially, and the decks were crowded with soldiers, some heavy armed, some with missile weapons. The tumult was great on all hands, and the action full of confusion. The Athenians, though restricted by their orders from engaging, gave some assistance by showing themselves at the different points, and

* The present Zantiots.

† Of these, the Leucadians furnished ten.

‡ Colonel Leake (North. Greece, vol. iii.) considers the Bay of Chímerium to be the present Arpítza, and Cape Chímerium to be Cape Varlám.

alarming the enemy. On the left of their line, the Corcyreans were successful : twenty of their ships having put to flight the Megarians and Ambraciots, pursued them to shore ; and, disembarking, plundered and burnt their naval camp. The Corinthians, however, taking advantage of this imprudent pursuit, brought their entire force to bear on the right wing of their opponents, which was broken, and gave away. The Athenians now endeavoured, by more effectual resistance, to prevent a total rout, but disorder was already everywhere prevalent. The Corinthians followed up their success ; and the Corcyreans were only saved by reaching their own shore, where the conquerors did not hold it judicious to follow them.

The action over, the enemy, collecting whatever they could recover of the wrecks and of their dead, carried them to a desert harbour on the main land, close to the Sybóta islets, and bearing the same name. Entrusting them to the care of the Epirots, who had encamped there in great numbers, they returned on the afternoon of the same day with the intention of renewing the attack. The Corcyreans, on the other hand, fearing lest the Corinthian force should make a descent upon the island to ravage their lands, and encouraged by the assurances of the Athenian commanders, resolved upon

quitting their post, and again giving battle, although the evening was setting in. Already had the mariners chanted the solemn pæan, when, most unexpectedly, the enemy was seen to retreat. Shortly afterwards, a strange squadron was descried in the act of rounding a headland, which had concealed it longer from them than from the hostile fleet; and, to their great joy, they presently ascertained it to be a reinforcement of twenty Athenian triremes making way to their assistance.

Meanwhile the enemy, not thinking it advisable to attack the Corcyrean fleet with such an addition to its strength, sought to create a division amongst the Corcyreans and their auxiliaries, by despatching a message to the Athenian commanders, accusing them of obstructing the passage to Corcyra. To this, the latter replied: "That it was not their intention to break the truce, but only to protect their allies; that, wherever the Corinthians chose to go, they might proceed without fear of molestation from them; but that any attempt upon Corcyra or any of its possessions, would be repulsed by the Athenians to the utmost of their power." The Corinthians, daunted by the boldness of this reply, satisfied themselves with erecting a trophy at Sybóta on the continent, and sailed homewards. Of the prisoners they had taken, they found that nearly eight hun-

dred had been slaves : these they sold. The remainder, numbering about two hundred and fifty, among whom were some of the chief men of Corcyra, were strictly guarded, but treated otherwise with consideration and respect : for the Corinthians hoped that, at some future period, they might be the means of enabling them to recover their ancient influence in the island.

The Corcyreans likewise erected a trophy on the Island of Sybóta, as a claim of victory ; after which the Athenian fleet put to sea : and thus ended, without any treaty, the “ Corcyrean war.”

CHAPTER III.

ON the return of the expedition to Corinth, a complaint was at once forwarded by that State to Sparta, representing the breach of the truce by the Athenians; and, other events having shortly after occurred, to increase the odium in which they were held, war was declared against Athens by the Doric confederation [431 B.C.] For thirty years, the whole Peloponnesus thereupon became one scene of devastation; whilst Corcyra, protected from hostile ravages by its insular situation, and having restricted itself to affording to Athens the support of fifty triremes, would have escaped the horrors of civil war had it not been for a sedition which broke out in the island, and which is rather distinguished for the ruthless barbarity which the

populace displayed upon that occasion than remarkable for the ultimate importance of the event.

During the fifth year of the Peloponnesian war, [427 B.C.] those Corcyreans, who had been made prisoners at the action off Sybóta, were liberated, at a nominal ransom of eighty talents;* but in reality, on a promise that they would use their influence in bringing over their State to the Peloponnesian cause. Accordingly, upon their return, they canvassed every citizen separately for his support in the general assembly, to a proposal which was to be made "of renouncing the Athenian alliance, and renewing their ancient connection with Corinth." Party spirit ran high; and the whole island was in commotion. The democratic leaders having despatched advice of these proceedings to Athens, envoys were sent from thence to watch over the interests of that Republic; and ambassadors from Corinth arrived nearly at the same time. An assembly of the people† was held; and the Corinthians so far prevailed, that it was resolved to remain neuter during the war. The

* About £19,420. The Attic talent of silver (Τάλαντον) was worth £242 16s. 6d.

† Thucyd. B. iii. From this passage, it would appear that the public questions were debated at Corcyra in the same manner as at Athens.

oligarchic faction, however, not satisfied with this success, and mistaking the pacific wishes of the people for party feeling, prosecuted one Píthias (who at that time was leader of the people, and a sort of honorary consul for the Athenian Republic at Corcyra), on the charge “that he was endeavouring to subject his country to Athens,” but, to their surprise, he was acquitted. Retaliating on his accusers, he charged five of the wealthiest of them with the offence of having cut stakes for vine-props in the sacred groves of Jupiter and Alcinoüs : upon which they were condemned in fines so exorbitant,* that they took refuge at the altars, in hope of obtaining a mitigation of them. Píthias, whose power only increased by their absence, bent on the gratification of his revenge, obtained an order for levying the fines with all the rigour of the law. The five now became conscious that this apparent zeal for the impartial course of justice was only a cloak for effecting the ruin of their whole party : they therefore left the temple, and collecting their adherents, rushed into the Senate House, and slew Píthias, with others, to the number of sixty ; while several more of his partizans only escaped by taking

* At the rate of one statêr, about 16s. 2¼d. for every stake cut.

refuge on board the Athenian ship which yet lay in the harbour.

Taking advantage of the general consternation that followed upon this bold act of assassination, the five next summoned the citizens to an assembly, where they endeavoured to justify their conduct on the plea of the public interest, and as being the only expedient for frustrating a design of bringing the people under Athenian slavery: advising them "in future to receive neither of the rival parties, unless they came peaceably, and in a single vessel; otherwise to declare them enemies." At the same time, fearing the resentment of Athens, they deputed ambassadors thither, to represent the stern necessity which had compelled them to act in the way they had done, and to dissuade such of their fellow-countrymen, as had taken refuge there, from attempting any measures which might be hurtful to the welfare of their native city. But the ambassadors, on their arrival at Athens, were arrested as enemies to the State, and sent as prisoners to Ægina.

In the meanwhile, those of the Corcyreans who had thus seized the Government, encouraged by the arrival of a Corinthian trireme, and a Lacedæmonian embassy, treacherously attacked the democratic party, and would have overpowered them,

had not the approach of night enabled them, under cover of the darkness, to retreat to the citadel and the more elevated parts of the city, where they drew up together, and strengthened their position. They also got possession of the Hyllaïc harbour. Their opponents, on the other hand, seized the forum, where most of their own houses were situated, and assumed possession of the harbour, which pointed towards the continent.* On the following day, both parties sent out emissaries into the country, for the purpose of inducing the slaves to join them, upon a promise of their freedom. Numbers of these went over to the commonalty; but the other faction succeeded in hiring eight hundred Epirot mercenaries. The next day but one, they again came to blows. The popular faction, owing to their strong positions and their superior numbers, obtained the advantage; and would have completely defeated their opponents, had not the latter set fire to all the buildings about the forum, sparing neither their own houses, nor the storehouses for merchandize. This flaming barrier effectually stopped all pursuit, and both sides kept a strict watch during the night: but with the return of morning, the nobles found that

* The present Bay of Kastràdhes.

they had been deserted by the Corinthian vessel, and by the greater part of the Epirots.

The day following, an Athenian squadron of twelve sail, and carrying five hundred heavy armed Messenians, arrived in the harbour, under the command of Nicostratus. His immediate endeavours were directed to the prevention of all further outrage ; and after having condemned the ten principal authors of the sedition, he permitted the remainder to continue in the city, on an agreement being signed by both parties and by the Athenians that they were “to have the same friends and the same foes.” Having so far settled the affairs of the island, he was desirous of putting to sea ; but the leaders of the commons proposed, that in order to deter the oligarchic party from attempting any fresh commotions, he should leave five ships of his squadron behind, to be replaced by five of their own. To this proposal he agreed ; but the magistrates, whose office it was to appoint citizens for this service, thought to obtain greater security against any further disturbances by selecting mariners who, to a man, were of the upper classes. These, however, fancying they could discover in this measure an ill-disguised excuse to convey them to Athens resolved, in spite of all the endeavours of Nicostratus to raise their spirits, to

sit down as suppliants in the temple of the Dioscori. On the other hand, the populace, irritated by what appeared to them to be a clear proof of insincerity, ran to arms, and would have put to death all who fell into their hands, had it not been for the interposition of the Athenian commander. Terrified at these proceedings, four hundred more of the oligarchic faction took their seats as suppliants in the temple of Juno; but the "people," becoming apprehensive of some conspiracy, induced them to leave the sanctuary, and conveyed them to the island* which faced the temple, where they were supplied with such necessities as they required.

On the fifth day after this, a Peloponnesian fleet

* Some authors have considered this island to be that of Ptychia: but as Thucydides is remarkable for his accuracy in particularizing names, and as he describes Ptychia in his narrative, he would in all probability have named it here, had he understood it to have been the island in question. From a subsequent passage relative to Conon's bringing a relief of six hundred Messenians to the city, and thereupon proceeding to the temple of Juno to anchor, it may be conjectured that this island lay at some distance from the city, yet in a situation which in some manner commanded an approach to it. Most probably, the island alluded to, is the one at the entrance of the present marshy Bay of Palæopolis; the temple being situated at the end of the promontory.

of fifty-three sail, under the command of Alcidas, anchored in the harbour of Sybóta; and the next morning, at daybreak, made for Corcyra. The democratic party, fearing the vengeance of the Lacedemonians, speedily equipped sixty vessels to engage them; but these were manned so hurriedly, as to include many of the opposite faction among their crews: the consequence of which was, that two of the ships went straight over to the enemy, and that on board of many of them the crews were fighting among themselves. It is not matter of surprise, therefore, if on being attacked while in this state of confusion, thirteen of their ships were captured, and the remainder would have been destroyed had not their retreat been covered by the Athenians. Lest the enemy should follow up their victory by immediately assaulting the city, or rescuing the prisoners in the island, the latter were brought back to the temple of Juno, and some of them were even persuaded to assist in manning the ships, thirty of which had, by some means or other, been collected. But the Lacedemonians, satisfied with what they had already done, steered towards Leukimmê, and plundered the country. The next night, however, sixty lights being seen to the southward, denoting an equal number of Athenian galleys, Alcidas turned his course homewards,

keeping close in [shore with the mainland, and had his ships conveyed over the isthmus of Leucas lest, by sailing round the island, they should be discovered.

When the approach of the Athenian reinforcements and the departure of the enemy became known to the city, the commonalty admitted the Messenian mercenaries within the walls, and had their fleet brought round into the Hyllaïc harbour. Then began a state of anarchy without a precedent in the annals of Greece. Encouraged by the Athenian Admiral Eurymedon, who had superseded Nicos-tratus in the command, the commonalty let loose their vengeance, and every atrocity was committed by them. During seven days, murder and rapine held an unlimited sway. Those nobles who had been persuaded to join the fleet, were thrown into the sea. Fifty of the suppliants, who had taken refuge at the sanctuary of Juno, were treacherously put to death : and this bloody deed so intimidated the remainder that, overcome with despair, they slew one another in the temple. Many were butchered to satisfy the sanguinary appetite of some private enmity ; many fell victims to the avarice of debtors, for the sums they had lent. Some were dragged from the altars ; others were slain while embracing the knees of the gods ; and a

number, who had betaken themselves for refuge to the temple of Bacchus, were there starved to death. About five hundred only escaped, by crossing to the opposite continent, where they seized some small forts which the State possessed on that side.*

The departure of the Athenians at length put a stop to this sanguinary revolution. The refugees were now able to cope with their opponents, and commenced a system of plundering expeditions to Corcyra, which they so devastated, that a famine ensued in the city. Meanwhile, they sent to Sparta and Corinth to obtain assistance, but these States, having all their forces occupied, were unable to grant it. Emboldened, however, by their constant success, they hired a small body of auxiliaries, and, to the number of six hundred, passed over to the island [B.C. 426], where they fortified a position on Mount Istônê.† They now came to a determination to maintain themselves there, and to back their resolve by necessity, proceeded to burn their ships. Being thus left to their own resources, both parties waged an equal warfare for upward of a year ; the citizens unable to drive the exiles from their position, the oligarchists unable to make themselves

* Most probably in the vale of Butrinto.

† The present Mount Salvador.

masters of the city. In the midst of this state of affairs, a Lacedæmonian fleet, numbering sixty galleys, was despatched for the purpose of acting in concert with the refugees on Mount Istone; but the Athenians receiving information of this movement, sent orders to their fleet, which was bound for Sicily, to put into Corcyra, and provide effectually for the safety of those in the city.* On their passage thither, the Athenians took the town of Pylus, in Laconia; and this successful movement appearing to give prognostic of further victories, created so much alarm among the Peloponnesians, that their fleet was immediately ordered back from Corcyra, and thus the oligarchic party were left to withstand the united efforts of their enemies [B.C. 425]. Driven from their position, they retreated to a more inaccessible stronghold in the mountain, but were soon forced to capitulate, “to be proceeded with, afterwards, at the pleasure of the Athenian people.”

On the pretence of ensuring their safety, till they could be conveyed to Athens, the prisoners were removed to the island of Ptychia,† but were, at the same time, warned that, if any one of them should attempt to make his escape, the whole number

* Thucyd. B. iv.

† The present island of Vido.

would forfeit the benefit of capitulation. The Athenian commanders, who had no wish that others should reap the honour of conveying their prisoners to Athens whilst they themselves were detained by foreign service in Sicily, were careful to let this condition be made known to the leaders of the populace; who, thirsting for the blood of their adversaries, and apprehensive that, if sent to Athens, their lives would be spared, procured agents to be secretly introduced among them with the object of working upon their suspicions and fears by insinuating that, unless they escaped, the Athenian commanders intended sacrificing them to the populace. The unfortunate oligarchists falling into the snare, were discovered in the very act of effecting their departure, and the articles of capitulation being thus broken, they were given up to the people. As soon as these had them in their power, they took them off the isle of Ptychia, and shut them up in a spacious edifice, from whence they were brought out, twenty at a time, and led between two ranks of soldiers to be mercilessly slaughtered. This process being found too slow a mode of extermination, the roof of the building was forthwith torn, off and stones, arrows, and other missile weapons were showered upon those inside, until not one was left alive. Next day the bodies were heaped up into carts and thrown outside the city; while such of their

wives as had been taken on Mount Istone were sold for slaves.*

For many years the conquest of Sicily had been a favourite project with the Athenian people, to realise which, they had never omitted mixing themselves up in the quarrels of the several Greek cities of Sicily and Southern Italy, whenever an opportunity was presented them. The hostility of Sparta had so constantly kept their forces occupied at home, that they had been unable to send any considerable force thither ; but the vacillation and timidity which their old enemy betrayed, in the sixteenth year of the Peloponnesian war, induced the Athenians to resume their projects of aggrandizement, for which a timely embassy from the city of Sagesta, then at war with Syracuse, gave them the opportunity [B.C. 415].† A fleet was immediately decreed, and a requisition made to the allies of the State, to furnish their contingents, which were to repair to Corcyra, as the general rendezvous:‡ for, since their influence had been firmly established in the island, by the massacre of the oligarchic party, the Athenians openly made use of the harbour for their ships.

* Thucyd. B. iv.

† Thirlwall's Hist. Greece, vol. iii.

‡ Thucyd. B. vi.

CHAPTER IV.

ON the arrival of the Expedition, the Athenian admirals Nicias, Alcibiades, and Lamachus, reviewed the whole fleet, which was the largest and the best equipped that had ever been assembled in any port of Greece. It consisted of one hundred and thirty-six galleys; of which one hundred were furnished by the Athenians, and the remainder by the Chians, Rhodians, and other allies. There were, besides, thirty transports for provisions; to which were attached one hundred small craft as tenders. Of the land forces which they carried, five thousand one hundred were heavy armed, four hundred and eighty were archers, and seven hundred Rhodian slingers. It must have been a proud moment for the commanders of this mighty armament when, in three squadrons, they weighed anchor from Corcyra fol-

lowed by a large number of merchantmen, who sailed in company with the fleet for the sake of traffic. The Corcyreans were a second time called upon to furnish assistance to Athens, when, two years after, the affairs of the latter in Sicily began to wear an unfavourable appearance [B.C. 413]. To aid in retrieving the fortunes of their more powerful ally, they on that occasion sent out a reinforcement of fifteen ships, with some heavy armed troops; which shared in the disasters of that expedition.”*

The total destruction of the armament in Sicily [B.C. 410] once more encouraged the oligarchic party at Corcyra to attempt the overthrow of the Athenian influence: but the people discerning their intention, sent to Athens for a garrison to defend the city. Conon, the admiral of the republic, sailed for Corcyra; and, leaving six hundred Messenians in the city, proceeded to the temple of Juno, where he anchored. The arrival of the Athenians was the signal for another massacre. The democratic faction rushed into the Agora, and proceeded to attack the more wealthy citizens [B.C. 407], throwing some into prison, killing others, and driving about a thousand out of the city. They then freed all the slaves, and enfranchised all the strangers. A few days after, some partizans of the exiles, taking ad-

* Thucyd. B. vii.

vantage of the fancied security of their opponents, drove them out of the Agora, and held it until those who had sought refuge in Epirus were enabled to join them. An engagement ensued, between the two factions, which was only terminated by the approach of night: but on the succeeding day, the Athenian commander made proposals for a pacification, which were agreed to; and both parties thenceforth continued in the country with equal privileges.* Of this wise though tardy policy they soon began to reap the advantage: for, by carefully avoiding any participation in the quarrels of other States, and being at peace within, the island of Corcyra became, in the course of a few years, alike remarkable for its wealth, and for the high state of its cultivation.†

The immense losses which Athens suffered, toward the end of the Peloponnesian war, had induced many of the small allied States to abandon her cause,‡ and Corcyra seems to have followed their example: for, as soon as the Athenians had recovered their position in Greece, they despatched Timotheus, the son of Conon, with a fleet of sixty galleys for the purpose of bringing Corcyra back again to its former state of dependance [B.C. 375] §. Timotheus made him-

* Diodorus Siculus. B. xiii, ch. v.

† Mitford's Greece.

‡ Diodorus Siculus. B. xiii, ch. iii.

§ Thirlwall's Greece, vol. v.

self master of the island without a struggle, and used his success with moderation, since he neither banished any of the citizens nor made any changes in the laws. But the oligarchic party, ever viewing the government of the Athenians with distrust, sent for assistance to Sparta, with a promise to this latter power that they would deliver the island into their hands. The Lacedæmonians, although fully appreciating the value of its possession, as one which would give them great strength at sea;* yet, from being at the time engaged in the Theban war, were unable to make the attempt of its reduction till the autumn of the year following [B.C. 374], when they sent Alcidas with twenty-two sail to surprise the island, and despatched messengers to Syracuse, to obtain the co-operation of Dionysius; representing to him that the proposed expedition was an object of no less interest to him than it was to Sparta.† Alcidas, on his arrival in Corcyra, gave out that he was bound for Sicily; but the citizens, penetrating his designs, strongly fortified the town, and sent advice of their suspicions to Athens. Early in the following spring they found them but too well confirmed, by the arrival of a Lacedæmonian fleet of sixty-five sail which, with fifteen hundred mercena-

* Diod. Sic. B. xv. ch. v.

† Thirlwall's Greece, vol. v.

ries on board, unexpectedly entered the harbour [B.C. 373].

Mnasippus, the Spartan commander, being now bent upon reducing the town by starvation, landed his troops, and took up a position on an eminence about half a mile distant from the city,* thereby cutting off all communication with the rest of the island, whilst his fleet blockaded the ports.

Meanwhile, the Athenians had not been idle in their preparations for the relief of Corcyra. Six hundred targeteers,† the choice troops of the Republic, were at once despatched, under the command of Ctesicles, by way of Epirus: and a fleet of sixty galleys was decreed. Ctesicles having obtained some transports from Alcetas, King of Epirus, landed in the island during the night, and effected an entrance into the city. He found the citizens reduced to the extremity of distress: for having burnt their ships to prevent their falling into the enemy's hands, they had been unable to obtain provisions from the continent; while many, driven by hunger, had made their escape into the besiegers' camp. This reinforcement, therefore, only served to aggravate their sufferings; so much

* From Kastràdhes towards Potamo.

† So called from the shape of their shields. Diod. Sic. B. xv, ch. v.

so, that notwithstanding that Mnasippus had issued a proclamation, to the effect "that all those who fled from the city should be sold as slaves," they still deserted in great numbers: and to add to their distress, they heard that the Athenian fleet had advanced no further than the Island of Calaurea, where it lay in a state of mutiny, in consequence of arrears of pay being withheld.*

Rashly trusting to the apparent certainty, that the town could not hold out much longer, Mnasippus, who was a man of a most avaricious disposition, dismissed some of his mercenaries, and kept back the pay from others. His troops, discontented and disorderly, consumed their time in scouring the country for plunder, and all discipline was at an end. Ctesicles, on his arrival in the city, had endeavoured to allay the party feeling which, as usual, divided the citizens; and with a view to raise their hopes made a sally from the town, by which manœuvre he cut off two hundred of the enemy.† Having on that occasion observed with what little vigilance their posts were guarded, and how negligently they carried on the siege, he next sent out a detachment to surprise the Lacedæmo-

* Thirlwall's Hist. Greece, vol. v.

† Diod. Sic. B. xv, ch. vi.

nians in their camp, with instructions to fall back upon the city as soon as the foe should begin to act upon the offensive. Mnasippus hastened to repel this attack with a few troops which he had about him, and gave orders for the mercenaries to follow to his support, which they obeyed but reluctantly. The sallying party retreating at their approach, Mnasippus fell at once into the snare which had been prepared for him, by pursuing them as far as the sepulchral monuments which lined the road of approach to the gates ; for arrived at this spot, they turned upon their pursuers, darting their missile weapons from behind the tombs ; whilst at the same time reinforcements issuing from each of the adjacent gates, fell upon the Lacedæmonian flanks, which were at once put to flight. Mnasippus fell gallantly, while endeavouring to cover the retreat with his main body, and with the loss of their leader, the rout of the besiegers became general : the camp itself would have been taken had not the Corcyreans been deterred at the sight of the multitude of camp-followers, whom they mistook in the distance for effective troops. Information having soon after reached Hypermenes, who had succeeded Mnasippus in the command, of the near approach of the Athenian fleet, he re-embarked his men with so much haste and con-

fusion, that not only the greater part of the plunder was abandoned, but even some of the sick were left behind. He then made for Leucas.*

After the departure of the Lacedæmonians, Iphicrates, who had succeeded Timotheus as Admiral of the Athenians, arrived at Corcyra : and he was not there long, before a squadron of ten galleys, which had been sent by Dionysius at the request of Sparta, appeared off the coast. Iphicrates immediately placed scouts on the heights to watch their movements,† and was informed that the Syracusans had landed on another part of the island ; his vigilance was soon rewarded by the capture of nearly the whole squadron : for though they were advised by one of their captains, a Rhodian, not to protract their stay, and notwithstanding that he himself set them the example of embarking, he alone escaped. The remaining nine galleys, with their Admiral Anippus, were taken, and brought away in triumph.

Being greatly in need of money to pay his men, Iphicrates left the chief part of his crews in the island, where they found employment, and ransomed his numerous prisoners for sixty talents ; sureties being found amongst the Corcyreans themselves,

* Thirlwall's Greece, vol. v.

† Mitford's Greece.

most probably of the oligarchic party, who distinguished themselves by the generosity and good-feeling they displayed on this occasion : for, though they looked upon the Syracusans as political enemies, yet they could not forget their descent from one common ancestry, as well as their long connection in commercial intercourse.

For several years after, Corcyra appears to have remained subject to Athenian influence, not to say dominion,* and to have continued under a democratic form of government [B.C. 359]. But as in former years the oligarchic party was still striving for power ; and in 359 B.C., they contrived to bribe the Athenian Admiral Chares, who had been sent there to levy contributions, and by his assistance after many tumults and much bloodshed, ultimately succeeded in obtaining the supremacy.† They were none the better inclined, however, toward the Athenians, for the aid thus afforded them : but took the opportunity, presented by the difficulties into which Athens had again fallen through the Social War, to throw off its protection [B.C. 351],‡ and even joined their old enemies, the Corinthians, in sending assistance to the Syracusans [B.C. 343].§

* Thirlwall's Greece, vol. v.

† Diod. Sic. B. xv, ch. xi.

‡ Thirlwall's Greece, vol. v.

§ Diod. Sic. B. xvi, ch. xi.

About this time, owing to fresh dissensions between the Thessalians and the Phocians, a new power was called in to interfere in the affairs of Greece [B.C. 338] ; and on the field of Chæronêa Philip King of Macedon, saw himself master of its destinies. Yet the several republics, although nominally subject to his power, were composed of so many heterogeneous and incompatible materials, that they still continued to exercise their separate and independent governments : and, after the accession of Alexander, the public mind was so constantly directed towards the East, that the smaller States remained almost unnoticed. Corcyra was, besides, protected from Macedonian influence by the natural peculiarities of its position ; and the rugged mountains of Epirus presented a constant and impassable barrier to Macedonian ambition, in that direction. Undisturbed, therefore, for a long series of years, the island progressed so much both in commercial wealth and military power, as to be in a state to oppose with success a Macedonian King. For when Cassander obtained possession of the throne, and with the object of rendering his kingdom more secure on the side of the Adriatic, proceeded to invade Illyria [B.C. 312], and took the seaport towns of Apollonia and Epidamnus, in which he left garrisons, these cities applied to the Corcyreans, who drove out the Macedonians, re-

stored Apollonia to its ancient liberties, and gave back Epidamnus to Glautias, King of Illyria. As soon as information of these events reached Cassander, he re-entered Illyria, with the intention of besieging Apollonia : but owing to the ruggedness and sterility of the country, he was enabled to bring but a small force against it, and even for this, subsistence was difficult to be procured, whilst the besieged were plentifully supplied by the Corcyrean fleets. The besieging army was soon reduced by hunger ; and, as the winter was fast approaching, it was forced to raise the siege, and to return to Macedonia [B.C. 310]. On its departure, the Corcyreans fitted out a fleet for Leucas, where they also freed the inhabitants from Cassander's garrison.* But this was their last act of independence.

* Diod. Sic. B. xix, ch. v and vi.

CHAPTER V.

DURING the numerous wars between Alexander's successors, and the subsequently disturbed state of the several countries, a number of military leaders arose who, like the Condottieri of the middle ages, gathered round them large bodies of mercenaries, and either hired their services out to the different powers, or set themselves up as independent Princes. Among these, a Spartan named Cleonymus, younger son of Cleomenes II., who had been sent by the parent State to aid the Tarentines in their disputes with the Lucanians and the Romans,* having succeeded in collecting an army of twenty thousand foot and two thousand horse, sailed for Corcyra [B.C. 301], and took the city, where he found a large amount of

† Thirlwall's Greece.

booty. Designing to make use of it as a town and citadel of war, from whence he could manage all the affairs of Greece,* he had it strongly fortified, and placed a large garrison within it. No sooner was he established in his new principality, than ambassadors came to him from Cassander, and from his rival Demetrius Poliorcetes, soliciting his alliance: but Cleonymus being bent on conquest in Sicily joined with neither. In the following year, he sailed for Italy [B.C. 300] to punish the Tarentines and some other tribes who had deserted him: but he was forced to return to Corcyra from whence he was, shortly after, expelled by Agathocles, the powerful tyrant of Syracuse.†

Of the affairs of this period, little more than confused accounts remain. It appears, from one of the fragments of Diodorus the Sicilian,‡ that not long subsequent to the battle of Ipsus, Cassander besieged Corcyra both by sea and land, and very nearly took it: but he was obliged to raise the siege by Agathocles in person, who burnt the whole of the Macedonian fleet, and afterwards gave the island as a dowry to his daughter Lanassa, on her marriage with Pyrrhus, King of Epirus. Owing however to frequent intercourse with the East,

* Diod. Sic. B. xx, ch. v.

† Ibid.

‡ Diod. Sic. Fragm. B. xxi.

polygamy had become a custom generally prevalent with the Greek Princes: Pyrrhus was already married to two wives, the one a Pæonian, the other an Illyrian Princess; and the attentions which he paid to them roused the jealousy of the Syracusan lady. To revenge herself, Lanassa retired to Corcyra, and sent to Demetrius Poliorcetes* (who was famous in that age as a Prince of so handsome a person and noble aspect, that no sculptor could be found to produce a statue worthy of him), offering him both herself and dowry. Demetrius had lately formed an alliance with her father Agathocles; and being as anxious as ever to obtain possession of the island, he immediately complied with her request, and made himself master of it.

For the next half century the whole of Greece was divided by the quarrels of the numerous pretenders to the Macedonian throne; and the several cities changed masters so frequently, that it is difficult to trace the history of any of them. Of Corcyra, no other mention is made, except that, in 274 B.C., it was reduced by Ptolemy son of Pyrrhus,† who took it by surprise; and it probably

* Diod. Sic. B. xxi, frag. Plutarch Vit. Pyrrh.; et Dem. 2.

† Justin. xxv, 3, 4. Ptolemy was son of Pyrrhus, by Antigone, step-daughter to Ptolemy Lagus. He was killed B.C. 272.

remained united to Epirus, as Alexander, the son of Lanassa by Pyrrhus, succeeded to his father. But this constant change soon manifested its injurious effects, extinguishing in the people all their former spirit of independence: and so degraded did they ultimately become, that they were both unable and unwilling to defend themselves against a band of lawless pirates.

For some years past, the Illyrians had been in the habit of sending piratical expeditions to the coasts of Elis and Messenia; and, on one of these, having put into Phœnice, a port of Epirus, for provisions, they bribed the garrison, which was composed of Gauls, and plundered the place. Their Queen Teuta, was so gratified with the result of this expedition, that she fitted out another to invade the coasts of Greece. Part of this fleet steered its course for Corcyra, while the remainder cast anchor in the port of Epidamnus: but being repulsed in the latter place they overtook the rest of the fleet and sailed together for Corcyra, where they disembarked their troops, and laid siege to the city [B.C. 229].

The dismayed inhabitants, instead of preparing for their defence, sent to the Ætolians and Achæans, imploring their assistance, which was readily granted; and ten ships of war belonging to the Achæans were equipped at their joint expense. On the other hand, the Illyrians being allied with the Acarnanians,

received seven ships from them ; with which addition to their forces they sailed to meet the enemy, and engaged then near the island of Paxus. The fight was equal between the Acarnanians and that part of the Achæan fleet which was engaged against them ; nor was any harm sustained on either part, beyond a few wounded. The Illyrians, on their side, having fastened their vessels four and four together, came on to the engagement with much seeming negligence, and even presented their flank to the enemy, apparently giving them the advantage in the attack, and enabling them to charge more effectually. No sooner however were they closely grappled, and the beaks of the Achæan ships fixed fast into the sides of the vessels that were thus bound together, than the Illyrians, boarding the enemy, overpowered them by the number of soldiers whom they could thus bring together. In this manner they rapidly captured four quadriremes, and sunk one quinquereme. This bold and decisive manœuvre so intimidated the remainder of the Achæans, that, trusting to the celerity of their ships, and taking advantage of a fresh and favourable breeze then springing up, they sailed back to their own country, without further loss. The Corcyreans disheartened by the defeat of their allies, submitted, and received an Illyrian garrison commanded by Demetrius, a

native of Pharos, who, as a mercenary, had risen high in the favour of Queen Teuta.

During the piratical excursions of the Illyrians to Phœnice they had sent large detachments from their fleet, which made depredations everywhere on the Roman merchants, killing many, and carrying others into slavery. On complaints of these outrages being carried to the Roman Senate, they sent an embassy to the Queen, demanding reparation; but she only treated the Ambassadors with contempt, and even caused one of them to be assassinated. Upon information of this act of treachery, war was immediately declared by the Roman Republic: and Caius Fulvius, one of the Consuls, was appointed to command the fleet, which consisted of one hundred galleys. Hearing of the attack upon Corcyra, he set sail, in hopes of reaching it in time to raise the siege; and also with a view to verify the accuracy of certain advices sent to Rome by Demetrius of Pharos, who, having discovered that his fidelity was suspected by Teuta, had resolved upon betraying the island to the Romans.*

On the arrival of the fleet, the city and garrison were accordingly given up by Demetrius: and Caius Fulvius, by his assistance, soon made himself master

* Polybius, B. ii, ch. i.

of Apollonia, Nutria, and Issa. The Illyrians, anxious for peace, sent an embassy to Rome; and it was granted to them on condition that first, they should pay an annual tribute to the Romans; second, that not more than three ships of war should ever sail at a time beyond Lissus, a town on the confines of Illyricum and Macedonia; third, that they should surrender the country of the Antitanes, the city of Epidamnus, and the islands of Corcyra Nigra, Issa, and Pharos.*

Under the Roman Republic Corcyra remained, to a certain degree, a free State, governed by its own laws, and electing its own magistrates. At the same time, it seems to have been looked upon by the other Greek States as unconnected with them by political ties: for though not included in the list of Grecian States which were proclaimed free at the Isthmian festival,† [B.C. 196] yet when, at the general assembly subsequently held at Corinth [B.C. 195], the Ætolians reproached the Romans with retaining garrisons in certain towns after their proclamation, they made no mention of Corcyra.‡

In the several wars between the Romans and Macedonians, the Consuls usually selected this

* Univer. Hist. Rome.

† Livy. B. xxxii, 32.

‡ Livy. B. xxxiv, 23.

island as their winter quarters;* and in the year B.C. 197, they held a meeting there of the Acarnanian chiefs. On the final subjugation of the Macedonian provinces [B.C. 167], two hundred and twenty barks belonging to that power were, by order of the Roman Senate, divided among the Corcyreans, Dyrrachians, and Apollonians, in gratitude for the willing assistance which had been always afforded by them to the Republic.

In the last campaign between Pompey and Julius Cæsar, the former increased his navy by the shipping of the island of Corcyra; obtained from it forage for his cavalry; and had it occupied by the main body of his fleet, under M. Bibulus.† After the defeat of Pharsalia it became the rendezvous for his scattered forces; and the principal surviving leaders of the party of the Commonwealth assembled there to decide on their future plans. Amongst others, Cicero and Cato met here for the last time [B.C. 48]; the former on his way to Italy to throw himself on Cæsar's mercy; the latter, not having yet despaired of the Commonwealth, set sail, in company with Cneius Pompeius, for Africa.‡

After the death of Julius Cæsar the province of

* Livy. B. xxvi, 24 : B. xxxi, 18, 22, 44 ; B. xxxii, 6, 24, 39 ; B. xxxvi. 42 ; B. xlii, 37.

† Comm. Cæsar's de Bel. Civ. L. iii.

‡ Arnold's Roman Common., vol. ii.

Greece was portioned off as the share of some leading Roman of the day, to whom Corcyra had to furnish its contingent of shipping and money, the levying of which was entrusted to some grasping pro-consul. Owing to their repeated exactions, and to its having been the theatre of such incessant wars, the whole of Greece had become one scene of misery and desolation. "It was from a view of the ruins of the once famous cities of the Saronic Gulf of Ægina, the Piræus, and Megara, that Ser. Sulpicius derived that lesson of patience under domestic calamities, with which he attempted to console Cicero for the loss of his daughter Tullia.* Ætolia and Acarnania were become wastes; and the soil was devoted to pasture for the rearing of horses: Cephalonia had become the private property of a noble Roman.† Corcyra, lost in the immensity of that empire which counted nations as provinces and capitals as bourgs, was known but as a sea-port which was generally made use of in proceeding from Italy to the Eastern provinces.

Antony, on his way to Syria, was accompanied as far as Corcyra by his wife Octavia:‡ and from

* Arnold's Roman Common., vol. ii.

† Thirlwall's Greece, vol. viii.

‡ Some histories of Corfú assert that he was married there. I have been unable to find any authority on the

thence he sent her back to Italy, that she might not be exposed to the dangers of that expedition. Some years later, Agrippina, on her melancholy journey from Asia to Italy with the funeral urn of Germanicus, made a short stay there, "to calm the agitation of a mind pierced to the quick."*

When the fawning flatteries of the Greeks induced the Emperor Nero to pass over there, he landed at Kassópo, where he sang before the altars of Jupiter Cassius. In compensation for the sums which he exacted from the several Greek cities, he gave them a nominal freedom: but they were again reduced to the state of a Roman province by Vespasian, on account of their frequent discords and tumults. His son Titus is said, on his return from Judæa, to have passed through Corcyra, where games were appointed in his honour.

Not only had Greece ceased to exist as a nation, but its inhabitants were reduced to a state of venal slavery. Their constant intercourse with the East had gradually sapped the morality of the people; and the customs introduced by the Roman Emperors, which they imitated, instead of censuring,

place of his marriage, except Plutarch, who distinctly states it to have been at Rome.

* Tacitus, B. iii.

completed the national ruin and degradation. "At Rome, the Greeks were installed in every office which could contribute to the sensuality or pleasure of the Court:*

"A flattering, cringing, treacherous, artful race;
Of fluent tongue, and never blushing face."

GIFF. TRANS. JUVENAL SAT. III.

And Corcyra followed the rest of Greece, in its fulsome adulation of the Roman Emperors, by erecting statues, and casting medals, to their memory, even to the most atrocious characters among them.

* Emerson's Mod. Greece, vol. i.

COAST IS THE MIDDLE AGES

PART II.

—

CORFÚ IN THE MIDDLE AGES.

PUBLIC WORKS

On the subject of the Board of Public Works, the Board of Directors of the City of New York, at a meeting held on the 10th day of January, 1898, at the City Hall, New York, the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That the Board of Public Works be authorized to make such arrangements as may be deemed proper for the improvement of the public works of the City of New York, and to report thereon to the Board of Directors at its next meeting.

Resolved, That the Board of Public Works be authorized to make such arrangements as may be deemed proper for the improvement of the public works of the City of New York, and to report thereon to the Board of Directors at its next meeting.

Resolved, That the Board of Public Works be authorized to make such arrangements as may be deemed proper for the improvement of the public works of the City of New York, and to report thereon to the Board of Directors at its next meeting.

Witness my hand and the seal of the City of New York, this 10th day of January, 1898.

CHAPTER I.

ON the decline of the Roman power the Island of Corfú shared the fate of the neighbouring continent, being frequently over-run by some of the numerous tribes of barbarians who extended their ravages to the utmost limits of the empire ; and the only surviving memorial of the pristine importance of its ancient commonwealth, is to be sought for in the signature of its Bishops at the councils of Ephesus and Chalcedon.*

Towards the end of the fourth century, Greece was invaded by Alaric : and Corinth, Sparta, and Athens, were likened by Synesius to sacrificial victims, of which the flames had consumed all but the bones.† Falling back from thence, before the

* Leake's North. Greece, vol. i.

† Chateaubriand, Itin. de Par. à Jéru.

Imperial General Stilicho, the barbarian monarch retreated to Epirus [A.D. 398], where he established himself so firmly, that the Emperor was constrained to recognize him as master-general throughout the whole prefecture of Illyricum. *

Near the middle of the succeeding century [A.D. 441], the whole breadth of Europe, from the Euxine to the Adriatic Sea, was at once desolated by the hordes of Huns which overran it under Attila. His ally Genseric, who always trusted "that the winds would bear him to a land, the inhabitants of which had provoked the divine vengeance," frequently visited Corcyra and the coasts of Epirus, in person, with his piratical fleets. The Vandals were unable to attack fortified cities: but as they always embarked a number of horses, they had no sooner landed than, like a swarm of locusts, they swept the devoted country with the besom of destruction, and carried off the spoils to their ships.

To the Vandals succeeded the Goths, under Totila: this chief, after having secured Rome, equipped a fleet of three hundred galleys which he filled with Goths, and sent over to Greece, for the purpose of devastating all the lands they could reach. The first shore they came to was that of

* Gibbon, ch. xxx.

Corcyra, which they ravaged : whence, they sailed over to the Sybóta islands.*

So low had the Eastern empire fallen, that the Emperor Justinian could only equip a fleet of fifty sail, and muster an army of five thousand men to oppose the Vandals : and although the abilities of Belisarius and Narses threw a faint glimmer of ancient glory over these disastrous times, yet their conquests being the result, not of the strength of the empire, but of certain favouring circumstances, served only to hasten its final destruction ; for whilst the Imperial armies were occupied in Africa and Italy, the whole extent of country between Constantinople and the Ionian Gulf was annually ravaged by the Huns, Antes, and Slavonians.† At each inroad, upwards of two hundred thousand inhabitants were destroyed, and the country was laid as bare as the deserts of Scythia.‡

To the invasions of the barbarians succeeded those of the Saracens. The Emperors, more occupied with hair-splitting the curious perplexities of theological systems than with the care of devising the necessary measures for the protection of their miserable kingdom, only fomented the growth of

* Procopii de Bello Gothico, iv, 22.

† Montesqu. Décad. des Romains, ch. xx.

‡ Gibbon, ch. xlii. Chateaubriand, Itin. de Par. à Jeru.

superstition, ignorance, and luxurious enervation at Constantinople, while they suffered disaffection to prevail throughout the provinces: and notwithstanding that the talents and courage of the Comnenian family revived for a time the glory of the empire; it was, under their dominion, invaded by a new race, who had gradually rendered their name terrible throughout Europe.

In the beginning of the eleventh century [A.D. 1016], a number of Normans, who had gone on a pilgrimage to the cavern of Mount Gargano in Apulia, were induced by one Melo, a fugitive noble of Bari, on the promise of large rewards, to assist him in freeing Italy from the power of the Byzantine Emperor. The news of this undertaking was not long in reaching Normandy; and fresh bodies of their countrymen joined them in the course of the following year: but Melo was unsuccessful against the Greeks; and his allies were reduced to the necessity of earning their subsistence, by the acceptance of mercenary pay in the service of some of the neighbouring Princes. They here so distinguished themselves, by their superior courage and discipline, that the Duke of Naples, with a view to engage them to remain in his service, made over to them the town of Aversa [A.D. 1029]: and their success brought, from beyond the Alps, swarms of armed pilgrims; whose numbers increased every

year. The renown which their valour acquired having reached the Court of Constantinople, Maniaces, the Grecian Governor of Italy, was instructed to secure their co-operation in an expedition against Sicily. Five hundred of these mercenary warriors having thereupon joined him, Sicily was invaded and thirteen cities, together with the greater part of the island, were at once reduced to the obedience of the Emperor. But the glory of the General was tarnished by ingratitude and avarice. In the division of the spoils, the Normans were overlooked. Redress being refused them, they dissembled their resentment until they had obtained a safe passage to Italy: but landed there, and being joined by their brethren of Aversa, although with no more than seven hundred horse and five hundred foot, they gave battle to Maniaces, and, stimulated by indignation and resentment, defeated the Imperial army, which is said to have consisted of sixty thousand men [A.D. 1043]. The countship of Apulia was the trophy of this brilliant victory.

Among the adventurers who had settled in Apulia, were ten brothers, sons of a Valvassor of Normandy, named Tancrede de Hauteville. Four of these were, successively, elected to the rank of Counts of Apulia: William of the Iron Arm, Drogo, Humphrey, and Robert. This last sur-

named Guiscard, or *the wizard*, was endowed with every quality requisite to form the soldier or the statesman. His lofty stature towered above every man in his army;* and he could wield at the same time his sword in the right hand, and his spear in the left. Being of a boundless ambition, and dissatisfied with his small countship of Apulia, he obtained from Pope Nicholas II., the patent of Duke [A.D. 1060 ; and thenceforth entitled himself, “By the grace of God and St. Peter, Duke of Apulia, Calabria, and hereafter of Sicily.” For twenty years, he waged a constant war with the neighbouring Princes ; and at last gave to his dominions the extent of the present kingdom of Naples. His youngest brother Roger, having joined him from Normandy, he sent him to conquer Sicily : but thirty years elapsed before he could completely subdue the island [A.D. 1090].

Not satisfied with his conquests in Italy, Robert was desirous to strengthen the position of his family by marriage ; for which purpose he betrothed one of his daughters to Constantine, the son and heir of the Emperor Michael VII. : but Michael being incapable of maintaining himself on the throne, was deposed. Robert resented the expul-

* Anna Comnena makes the same remark respecting his son Bohemond, whom she saw at Constantinople, when on his road to Palestine.

sion of his ally ; and, to inflame the ardour of his Norman Barons, a pseudo-Michael appeared in Italy, whose pretensions were supported by the Pontiff Gregory VII. It being resolved to reinstate the deposed Emperor, two years were spent in the extensive preparations necessary for so great an enterprise : and, finally, a large armament was collected at Otranto.

Previous to sailing, Robert sent his son Bohemond,* with fifteen galleys to reconnoitre the coast of Epirus, and to seize the island of Corcyra, which was done without opposition. The main body then passed over to that island, from whence they sailed to Durazzo [A.D. 1081]. The following year, Robert was compelled to return to Apulia, disturbances having broken out there ; and Bohemond was left in command of the forces. The abilities of that Prince not being equal to his courage, he was soon obliged to embark for Italy, after evacuating all his father's conquests : but Robert, having put down the rebellion in his dukedom, and acquired fresh laurels by forcing the

* He was the eldest son of Robert Guiscard ; but had been illegitimized by the Church, on account of his father's and mother's near relationship. In 1096, he sailed for Palestine with his cousin Tancred, and became famous, as the Prince of Antioch, whose prowess is celebrated by Tasso.

Emperor of Germany to raise the siege of Rome, once more led his victorious warriors to the Eastern empire ; which had been conferred upon him by the Pontifical gratitude of Gregory VII.

With one hundred and twenty sail, he crossed the Adriatic ; and, three times, before Corcyra, encountered the united Venetian and Imperial fleets. In the two first actions, his success was doubtful : but, in the third engagement, the Greek brigantines were put to flight, and the greater part of the Venetian galleys were sunk. The ambitious projects of Robert were, however, shortly after, annihilated, by a fever, of which he died in his tent at Cephalonia,* on the 17th July, 1085, in the seventieth year of his age. His remains were carried to Venusia : and, a second time, Bohemond had to convey his father's forces back to Italy.

Sixty years had elapsed, when the peace of the Eastern empire was, a second time, endangered by the marriage of a Norman. Roger, King of Sicily, and nephew to Robert Guiscard, having demanded a daughter of the Comnenian family in marriage, his proposals were treated with contempt, and his envoys insulted. The irascible Prince declared war : and George, the Admiral of Sicily, with

* Sismondi, Ital. Rep. ch. iv. Gibbon, Rom. Emp. ch. lvi. He is also said to have died at the castle of Kassópo.

a fleet of seventy galleys, appeared before Corfú [A.D. 1146]; and made himself master of the whole island.* Alarmed for the safety of his dominions, Manuel Comnenus, surnamed the Hercules of his age, made an alliance with Venice; and, by the assistance of that Republic, succeeded in driving the Normans from his territories, and took back the citadel of Corfú after an obstinate defence [A.D. 1152]. The Emperor here displayed his usual reckless valour. Standing on the poop of his galley, and towing after him a captive ship, he sailed round the fort, opposing only a large buckler against the volleys of darts and stones which were aimed at him: and he would have met an unavoidable death, had not the Sicilian Admiral enjoined his archers to respect the person of such a hero.†

During the siege, a great deal of ill-feeling arose between the Greeks and the Venetians; which threw

* Muratori, Annali d'Italia.

† Gibbon, Rom. Emp. ch. xlviii, lvi. Sismondi, Ital. Rep. ch. xiv. This is the first time that any description of the citadel is given, which relates to its present site. From a plate published at Venice, 1523, the citadel must originally have been built on the part of the rock near the present Cape Sidero, as it is there termed *Castel Vecchio*, in distinction from the other tower, or *Castel Nuovo*. The plate is by one Simon Pinargenti, and is in the King's Library, British Museum.

the camp into a perpetual state of discord, and, finally, broke out into open hostilities. For several years, the commerce of Venice had been seriously endangered by the petty revenge of the Byzantine Emperors; but the Holy Wars, then at the height of their fanaticism, gave the rival parties too constant occupation at home, to allow them leisure for protracting quarrels: and, whilst the Emperors of Constantinople were necessitated to be ever on the alert, through dread of the multitude of barbarous pilgrims who swarmed through the dominions; the Venetian merchants amassed enormous wealth, by transporting them from harbour to harbour, along the line of coast which spreads from Pola to Constantinople. Conspicuous among the rest was the great Richard of England; who, on his return from the Holy Land, reached Corfú in the middle of November, 1192, where he hired three small vessels bound for Zara, to convey him and his suite, consisting of Baldwin de Bethune, Anselme the chaplain, and a few Knights Templars.*

In the early part of the thirteenth century, Fulk de Neuilly had aroused the Princes of France to undertake another crusade. The courts of Champagne, Flanders, and Brienne, the Montmorencys, the

* Hist. Venice, in the Family Lib., vol. i. Pict. Hist. England, vol. i, B. iii.

Dampierres, and the celebrated Simon de Montfort, eagerly assumed the cross. An assembly was held at Compiègne : where it was decided to march overland to Venice, and that envoys should be sent to that Republic, with instructions to hire shipping sufficient for the conveyance of the force to Palestine.

At Venice, the envoys were received with the greatest honour : and that State engaged to provide the crusaders, for one year, at a stipulated price of eighty-five thousand marks, with flat-bottomed ships for four thousand five hundred horses, and nine thousand esquires ; and transports for four thousand five hundred knights, and twenty thousand dismounted cavalry.

Between Easter and Pentecost, 1202, the forces of the several Barons began to gather at Venice. Impoverished by the great expenses they had been put to in their preparations for the expedition of the Holy Land, they found themselves unable to raise the sum agreed on, by a deficit of thirty-four thousand marks ; the difficulty was, however, overcome by the sale of their services to the Venetians for that amount : and, on the 9th of October, they sailed for the purpose of reducing the town of Zara, which had revolted from the Republic. After a short siege, the town was taken ; and the crusaders were once more about to sail for the Holy Land, when

Alexius Comnenus, son of the deposed Emperor of Constantinople, after many wanderings, reached the camp before Zara, and prayed the assistance of the allies for the recovery of his crown. The Venetians saw at once the advantage they might derive from such an opportunity; and they prevailed on most of the Barons to join the cause. Corfú was appointed as the general rendezvous. Shortly after Easter, 1203, their forces were assembled there, and encamped before the city:* and Alexius, on his landing, was received with the honours of royalty, being met by the most distinguished among the knights. His tent was pitched in the midst of the camp, next to that of the Marquis of Montferrat, who had been declared leader of the crusaders, and to whose care he was confided. Corfú was then a rich island, abounding with every sort of produce;† and they remained there nearly three weeks, both for the sake of repose, and to mature their plans: but their stay nearly proved the ruin of the expedition. Many of the more zealous crusaders had had their scruples excited by the strong disapprobation with which the Pope had marked the siege of Zara, and their subsequent

* The word "ville" is in the original; but, from a passage which I shall give presently, I think it was confined to what would now be termed the citadel.

† "Riche et plenteuse."

operations. Others, at the head of whom were Eudes de Champagne, Guy Castellan de Coucy, Richard de Dampierre and his brother Eude, wearied with the hardships they had undergone, resolved to remain in the island, until they could join Walter de Brienne, who was then at Brindisi. Informed of these disaffections, the Marquis of Montferrat, the Count de St. Paul, and the other leaders of the army, together with the Bishops and Abbots, accompanied by the youthful Prince, repaired to a valley where the disaffected Barons were holding a meeting. When in sight of each other, both parties dismounted, and the Marquis finally prevailed on the seceders to promise that they would not leave the expedition until the following feast of Saint Michael. This compact having been sworn to, they sailed for Constantinople, on the eve of Pentecost. "The day," says the noble chronicler, "was bright and cheerful, and the winds were soft and favourable, as they spread their sails before them; and I, Geoffrey, the Marshal of Champagne, who have dictated this recital, having been present at the matters therein related, do bear witness that so glorious a sight had never been witnessed before. As far as the eye could reach, the sea was covered with ships and galleys; our hearts were dilated with a joyous exultation, and we

considered that our forces would suffice to conquer the world.*

At this time, the empire was suffering under the greatest depression, and destitute of either army, fleet, or treasury. Sensuality and lethargic repose had become the sole desire of the inhabitants, who were regardless both of honour and shame.† Constantinople, unable to withstand a single assault of the Latins, soon fell into their hands, and the wonderful merchandize of the East which had accumulated there for centuries, became the prize of the victors. But jewels and silks did not satisfy the warlike Barons, and a council was appointed to partition the empire. Venice, whose policy it was to form a continued line of factories as far as the Byzantine capital, obtained for her share, the long line of ports and islands extending from Ragusa to the Hellespont, and the Doge became Despot of Romania, and Lord of one-fourth and one-eighth of the Roman empire.‡

Completely broken up into petty and independent

* Chron. de Ville-Hardouin, edited by Dufresne, Seigneur Du Cange.

† Sismondi, Rep. Ital., ch. xiv.

‡ Dandolo assumed the title of "Henricus Dandolus D. G. Venetiarum Dalmatiæ et Croatiæ Dux, quartæ partis et dimidiæ totius Imp. Rom. Dominus.

feofs, each warrior having received some city or district of which he barely knew the name, the empire became one scene of desolation and rapine. Feudal war was raging over the land, whilst piracy having become an honourable profession, numberless corsairs roamed with impunity through the neighbouring seas. One of these, Henry Count of Malta,* who had allied himself with the Genoese in their depredations on the Venetian colonies and shipping, made himself master of Corfú.

The Venetians, finding themselves unable to keep possession of all their newly-acquired dominions, published an edict [1207], by which each Venetian citizen was empowered to equip privateers, and to subjugate for his own use (with homage to the Republic) the several islands of the Archipelago, and the towns on the coast of Greece. At the same time, the Government equipped a fleet of thirty-one galleys, under the command of Renieri Dandolo, which was dispatched for the recovery of the more important points. Renieri found Corfú occupied by a Genoese corsair, Leone Vetrano, most probably a Lieutenant of the Count of Malta, who,

* He was a noted buccaneer of the thirteenth century. Having afterwards assisted the Saracens of Sicily in a rebellion against Frederic II., he was deprived by that monarch, in 1223, of his countship of Malta.—*Muratori, Ann. d'Italia.*

assisted by the inhabitants, engaged the Venetian fleet. He was however defeated with a loss of nine galleys; and being taken prisoner, was hanged at Corfú with sixty of his Corfiot partisans.* It does not appear that the Republic had any intention of taking the island under its immediate government, but simply to carry out its original ambitious scheme of possessing a line of harbours from Venice to Constantinople: with this object in view, a garrison was retained in the citadel alone, under the command of a chevetaín;† and the remainder of the island was soon after divided into feofs among ten Venetian families.‡

* Muratori, Annali d'Italia, vol. vii. Ducange, Emp. de Constant.

† There appears to have been no town outside the fort at this time; for when, in the year 1210, a cousin of the Prince of Achaia, on his way thither, landed at Corfú, his vessel being in need of repairs, he sent his baggage to the hostelry *inside* the fort.

Καὶ ὤρισε καὶ εὐγάλαν τὰ ροῦχα του εἰς τὸ κάστρον,
καὶ αὐτὸς ἐκεῖ ἀπλίκευσεν εἰς τὸ ξενοδοχεῖον.

CHRONIQUE DE MORÉE. LIV. II.

‡ There are no documents extant, illustrating the nature of these feofs; but, from a nearly contemporary record, granting the Castle of Kessa to Roger, son of the Count of Jadra, by the Doge, Sebastiano Ziani, their general character and contents may be judged of:—

[Gift

Gift of the Castle of Kessa, to Roger, son of the Count of Jadra, by Sebastiano Ziani, Doge of Venice. 1174.

In nomine Domini Dei, et Salvatoris nostri Jesu Christi, Anno Domini 1174, mense Augusti, Indictione 7, Rivoalto.

Quoniam ad nostri Ducatus regimina, quæ, Deo propitio, suscepimus, pertinet, ut omni cura, et instantia, quæ inordinata sunt provisione congrua disponamus. Ideo nos, Sebastianus Ziani, D. G. Venet. Dal. atque Croatiae Dux, cum nostris successoribus, per hanc præsentem concessionis cartam, damus atque concedimus tibi Rogerio, filio Comitis Jaderæ, Castrum Kessæ, cum omnibus suis habentiis, et pertinentiis, intus et foris, usque ad campum Louis, quod est versus Arbes, quod quidem Castrum positum est in Insula Pagi, quod est de jure et pertinentia nostra, nostrique Ducatus, sicut te investimus in præsentia plurimorum bonorum hominum. Ideoque prædictum Castrum, cum omnibus suis habentiis et pertinentiis ab intus et foris, sicut et competitura quomodolibet, præfato D. Regi, ex quovis capite, ratione, Titulo, sive casu, super tota Dalmatia prædicta, Terris et Castris et Locis Fortaliciis omnibus, Vasallis, Feudis, Feudatariis, Juribus, Jurisdictionibus, et pertinentiis suis omnibus dictarum civitatum Jadræ, Lauranæ, Castri Novigradus, Insulæ Pagi, accessione quorumcunque Jurium super tota prædicta Dalmatia, directo et utili Dominio, mero et mixto imperio, cum gladii potestate, liberas et exemptas ab omni nexu, et Hypotheca reali, et personali angaria, et parangaria, præstatione tributi, quolibet alio onere, honore, gravamine, et specie servitutis absque reservatione aliqua debenda præfato D. Regi pro terris venditis, et cessione aliorum Jurium ut supra ipsius dictæ quomodolibet non obstant : & ut infra videlicet pro ducatis centum millibus.

CHAPTER II.

PRE-OCCUPIED by the visionary aggrandizement which she had acquired in the Levant, Venice neglected her new colony ; and during the troublesome times which ensued after the partition of the empire, the Despots of Epirus, who were for some years after this event more powerful than the Emperors of Constantinople, made themselves masters of it, but how and when is unknown.

At the partition of the empire by the Latins, three members of the Imperial family founded as many separate kingdoms.

1. Alexius, a grandson of the tyrant Andronícus, who had been appointed Governor of Trebizond by the Angeli family, made himself independent, and his grandson was the first Emperor of Trebizond.

2. Theodore Lascaris, son-in-law of Alexius III., established himself at Nicæa in Bithynia; and in a victorious reign of eighteen years, expanded his principality to the magnitude of an empire.

3. Michael Angelus Comnenus, an illegitimate son of John the Sebastocrâtôr, who was grandson of the Emperor Alexius Comnenus. On the first partition of the empire, he became a follower of Boniface, Marquis of Montferrat; but, in 1204, seeing that the Greek cause had lost all hopes, he deserted him and retired to Durazzo, where in the course of the following year he married the Governor's daughter, and became master of the city, with the title of Duke of Durazzo. The wild clans of the mountains of Epirus were then, as now, easily induced to follow any bold leader who would take them into his pay; and consequently, Michael soon found himself at the head of a large force, which was daily augmented by numerous refugees from the districts occupied by the Franks: with these he succeeded in making himself master of all the country which constituted the ancient provinces of Epirus Acarnania, and Ætolia, and of which the chief towns were Joánnina, Arta, and Naupactus (Epákto). Endeavouring to extend his conquests beyond the Gulf of Lepanto, he was defeated in 1205 by Geoffroy de Ville-Hardouin; and being afterwards hard pressed by the Emperor Henry, he

acknowledged the supremacy of the Pope, and gave his daughter in marriage to Eustace, Count of Flanders, brother of the Emperor Henry. But these measures were merely to gain time and recruit his forces; for, in 1210, he suddenly broke the peace, by seizing the Constable of Romania, with a hundred knights, some of whom he hanged, while he subjected the remainder to various kinds of maltreatment: and for the remainder of his reign he constantly harassed the Frank Barons. To deprive the Count of Flanders of his daughter's dowry, he induced one of his brothers, Theodore, to reside in the Despotate; and at his death, in 1216, bequeathed the whole of his provinces to him.

During the troubled times which succeeded the events of the year 1204, Theodore had possessed himself of Corinth and Argos; but he had been deprived of the first in 1210, and of the other two years after, by William de Ville-Hardouin, the founder of the principality of Achaia. It was a natural consequence that he entertained a thorough hatred of the foreign invaders; and as soon as he succeeded to the Despotate* made war on both Franks and Bulgarians, taking from the former the town of Durazzo, of which the Venetians had

* It was called indifferently, the Despotate of Epirus, or Ætolia, or of the West. In the "*Chronique de Morée*," it is termed Τῆς Ἑλλάδος.

repossessed themselves, and, from the latter, the districts of Achris, Príllapo and Albanon. The following year, Peter of Courtenay, who had succeeded the Emperor Henry, embarked at Brindisi, with the intention of reducing the Despotate. He laid siege to Durazzo; but being obliged to raise the siege, imprudently endeavoured to force his way over the mountains of Epirus. Theodore allowed him to penetrate to a considerable distance into the interior, when, surprising him in a mountain pass he totally destroyed his forces. The fate of Peter of Courtenay is enveloped in mystery: some historians relate that he was killed in the action; others say that he died in prison; while the enemies of the Despot affirm that he was assassinated at a banquet to which Theodore had treacherously invited him. Amongst the few whom the victor had spared, was the Pope's Legate; whose critical position was no sooner known, than the Pontiff wrote to Theodore, demanding his release: but the demand not being complied with, Honorius preached a crusade against him. Theodore had, however, the prudence to allay the storm; and not only released the Prelate, in 1218, but even imitated the late Despot's example, by recognizing the Pope both as lord spiritual and temporal.

This submission to the Court of Rome had not the effect of diminishing his animosity against the

Franks, whom he continued to harass in every way. On the death of Boniface, Marquis of Montferrat, he turned his attention towards Thessaly. This kingdom extended from Thessalonica to Almyrus (Armíró), including Phthiôtis and the plain of Lárísa; and, as the great Vlakhía* and the mountains of Thessaly were in possession of Constantine Angelus Comnenus, a younger brother of the Despot, he soon made himself master of the rich plains of Thessaly and of the town of Thessalonica, where he caused himself to be crowned Emperor, in 1222.

In 1224, he effectually routed Tierri de Valincourt and Nicolas de Mainvaut, who had been sent by the Emperor Robert of Constantinople to besiege him in the town of Serrés; for, at the news that Robert had been defeated at Pemanene by Vataces, these Generals raised the siege, and retreated so incautiously, that they were taken by surprise, and their forces cut to pieces by Theodore. The Franks could never successfully oppose the native troops in a broken country, for both Greeks and Bulgarians carefully avoided close combat; but, assailing the heavy armed Barons from a distance with showers

* It consisted of the ridge of the *Pindus* and the adjacent country, and was so called from the number of Vlákhe, or Wallachians, who had settled there.

of arrows, they spread an universal carnage throughout the French ranks. At the news of this success, Adrianople surrendered to Theodore, who now annoyed his enemy by frequent inroads almost to the gates of Constantinople ; when the Emperor, unable to resist him in the field, induced the Pope to include him in the excommunication which, in 1229, was launched against Frederick II.

Flushed with success, Theodore marched an army to the Hebrus (Maritza) against Azan, King of the Bulgarians ; although he had but lately entered into a treaty with him on the marriage of a daughter of Azan with Michael Manuel Angelus Comnenus, another brother of the Despot. He was, however, defeated and taken prisoner by the Bulgarians, who overran Theodore's dominions to the further extremity of Epirus, taking Adrianople, Didymotika, Serrés, Volera and Príllapo. Michael Manuel, having escaped after the action, fled to Thessalonica, where he took the title of Despot, endeavouring to justify his possession by doing homage to the Prince of Achaia, and recognizing the Church of Rome ; whilst another Michael, an illegitimate son of the first Despot of Epirus, also taking advantage of Theodore's captivity, seized on the Despotate of the West.

Theodore had two sons, John and Demetrius, and two daughters, Anne and Irene. Azan, on the

death of his wife, Maria of Hungary, became attached to, and married Irene; and, out of affection for her, not only released Theodore and his family, in 1237, but assisted him in regaining possession of Thessalonica, which he did by procuring Michael Manuel to be seized and conducted before the Turkish Sultan at Attalia; the Asiatic, however, treated his illustrious captive with more clemency than had been expected, and sent him in safety to the Court of Vataces, by whom he was invested with the principality over the districts of Pharsalia, Lárissa and Platamóna. Ungrateful to his benefactor, he joined the Latins against him; but died the same year, 1237, before anything could be effected, leaving his principality to Michael, Despot of Epirus. Theodore,* finding himself, in consequence of his long captivity, disqualified for the management of the affairs of the State, in an age when personal activity was indispensable, made over the title of Emperor of Thessalonica to his son John; who ruled peaceably in that city till the year 1241, when Vataces, who looked upon himself as Emperor of the Eastern Empire, besieged John in his capital. At this crisis, Theodore consented

* It is related that Theodore, although treated with great kindness by Azan, entered into a conspiracy against him; on discovery of which, Azan caused his eyes to be put out. But subsequent events clearly disprove this.

that his son should surrender the title of Emperor, taking that of Despot, and swearing fealty to Vataces. John died about the year 1246, and was succeeded by his brother Demetrius, who, however, proved so unpopular, that Vataces the same year made himself master of Thessalonica, the government of which he gave to Andronico Paleologo, and took Demetrius away as prisoner to Asia.

Theodore, although deprived of all his possessions, except the towns of Vodhená, Staridole, and Strone, was still inflamed with ambitious projects; and having now lost his sons, turned towards Michael of Epirus, as a suitable instrument for harassing Vataces. Michael had but lately demanded a niece of Vataces in marriage for his eldest son Nicephorus; but, being of an inconstant and treacherous disposition, he was nevertheless induced to join his uncle, and to attack Vataces' dominions. This happened in 1252. That monarch was then in Asia Minor; but, at the news of the invasion, he at once crossed the Hellespont, and marched upon Vodhená. This town, which, for the grandeur of its natural situation and the magnificent scenery by which it is surrounded, is not surpassed by any city of Greece, commands the plains of Lower Macedonia and the approaches to Epirus on the side of Constantinople: but Theodore, who had lost all the energy of his youth,

at once fled on the approach of Vataces. Deserted by its defenders, Vodhená had thus no other alternative but to surrender, and its example was soon followed by Kastoría, Deabolis (Devól), and other important fortresses of Macedonia. Michael was now compelled to sue for peace; but before he could obtain it, he had to give up his uncle Theodore, his son Nicephorus, and the towns of Príllapo, Valesá and Króra: and some years later, in 1258, on the marriage of Nicephorus with the niece of Vataces, he surrendered the important fortresses of Durazzo and Sérvia; while the Emperor of Nicæa erected Albanon into the chief town of a prefecture, under the superintendence of a Prætor, who was deputed to restore order in those provinces.

On the death of Theodore Lascaris II., Michael, taking advantage of the disorders which arose, attacked Albanopolis, and drove out the Prætor; but the Regent of Nicæa at once sent his brother John to attack Michael in his provinces. The Despot was then at Kastoría, and was taken quite unawares; the Imperial troops having passed Vodhená, before he was aware of the expedition. Reduced to the last extremity, he requested assistance of the Prince of Achaia, and of Manfred, King of Sicily, who had married his daughter.* From

* In the "Chronique de Morée," he is said to have received reinforcements by sea, by way of Σίδερόπορον,

Sicily, he obtained some German mercenaries, and the Prince of Achaia came in person. With these succours he laid siege to Beligrád on the Uzûmi (Apsus), but the evening approaching, he raised the siege to give them battle. A skirmish took place at Vorylas, but, for some unknown reason, whether from cowardice, or to revenge himself on his allies for some insult which may have been offered him, he retired secretly during the night with his troops, leaving the allies to their fate. The Prince of Achaia was taken prisoner, and his followers dispersed.

This took place in the month of August, 1259. The enemy then laid siege to Joánnina, which was considered the capital of the Despotate, and threatened Arta, whilst Michael was endeavouring to conceal himself between Leucadia and Cephalonia. His son, however, succeeded in arresting the progress of the forces of Paleologus, and in obtaining a truce. The Despot busied himself in obtaining fresh reinforcements from Manfred, and, at the end of the truce, recommenced the war. A second time John Paleologus marched against him, but, on his route, discovering that he could make himself master of Constantinople, he did so, and for

which the Editor is unable to find. But part of the fortress at Corfú is at present called Cape Sidero, which in that day may have given its name to the part of the harbour immediately beneath the fort.

some years Michael was left to reconquer all Epirus and Thessaly. When, however, Michael Paleologus had settled the affairs of the capital, he once more sent an army against the Despotate; but it was defeated, and John the Sebastocrator, who commanded it, was sent prisoner to Manfred. Michael Angelus Comnenus died that year, 1264, and was succeeded by his son Nicephorus, to whom he left Thesprotia, Acarnania, Dolopia, and the islands of Corfú, Cephalonia, Zante, and Ithaca. Although the historian Nicephorus Gregorius* distinctly states this to have been the case, yet the islands can only have been left as fiefs for which he received homage, as Zante and Cephalonia were in possession of a Count Palatine, and Corfú formed part of the lands which Manfred, Prince of Tarento, received as his wife's dowry: for, when that ill-fated Prince fell at Benevento, the Grand Admiral of Sicily, Philip Chinard, retired to the Despotate with the remains of Manfred's troops, intending to defend the lands that Manfred possessed there. Nicephorus,† however, alarmed lest this protection

* Lib. vi, ch. ix.

† The decay of the Despotate was as rapid as had been its rise. Nicephorus at his death possessed only Ætolia and Acarnania. The first he left to his son Thomas, the second he gave as dower to a daughter on her marriage with John, Count Palatine of Zante and Cephalonia. Quarrels having arisen between him and the Despot

should prove but a pretence for taking possession of them, endeavoured to get Chinard into his

Thomas, respecting these lands, Count John, with the assistance of his son, Count Thomas of Cephalonia, caused the Despot of Ætolia to be assassinated, and seized on his province, styling himself Despot of Arta. Count Thomas succeeded his father, but was put to death by his brother John, who, in his turn, was poisoned by his wife, in 1335. Count John left one son who succeeded him, Nicephorus, and he was the last of the Counts of Zante and Cephalonia, who were Despots of Arta. In 1338, the Emperor Andronicus Paleologus II. seized the favourable opportunity offered by the death of the Despot John, and the minority of his son Nicephorus, for the double purpose of reducing the Despotate, and chastising the Albanians: to effect this, he marched through Thessaly into Albania. But the clamours of the inhabitants of the Despotate, who were attached to their young chief, compelled the Emperor to leave him thenceforward in peace. During his rule, two Albanian families of Italian descent, the Balza and Spata, divided the sway of Epirus; but, about the year 1400, after the death of Nicephorus, the Emperor Manuel Paleologus bestowed the Despotate of Arta upon Charles Tocco, Count of Leucadia. He married a daughter of Rainier, Grand Duke of Athens, and made himself master of Acarnania and Epirus. He had no children by his wife, but left four illegitimate sons. Of these, Antonius had Thebes and Athens, whilst Acarnania was divided amongst Memnon, Turnus, and Hercules; but Ætolia came to a nephew, Charles, son of Léonhard. The Acarnanian Princes quarrelling, Memnon appealed to the Sultan

power. To effect this, he gave him his own wife's sister in marriage, and bestowed upon her the Island of Corfú and the Lordship of Kanina, a strong town situated on the site of the ancient Bullis Maritima, upon a height above Avlona, being part of the lands which formed the dower of the Princess Helena. Chinard, being thus entirely thrown off his guard, accepted an invitation to the Despotate, where he was murdered. By this crime, Nicephorus only exchanged an imaginary enemy for a real one; for, Chinard having left Italians in charge of his castles, they, on hearing of his assassination, sent a deputa-

Múrâd, who sent an army under the orders of Karadja Pasha into Acarnania. About this time, envoys from Joánnina reached his camp, offering to deliver up the keys of the town, if he would confirm the people in their privileges. To this Múrâd consented, and the envoys, having delivered up the keys of the town, received in exchange a *Khatti-sheríf*, signed by himself, October 9th, 1431. The spot where the exchange took place is near Selanik, and to this day bears the name Klidhi. Múrâd once in possession of that capital, soon reduced Acarnania, and put an end to the Despotate.

For the history of these Despots of Epirus, from 1204 to 1431, see Ducange, *Hist. de la Conquête de Constantinople. Familiæ Byzantiæ. Chroniques Relatives aux Expéditions Françaises du xiii^e siècle* — Buchon's Edition. Leake's *Researches in Greece*. Von Hammer's *History of the Ottoman Empire*—Notes.

tion to Charles of Anjou, whom they recognized as their liege lord, and gave up their trust to him. The Despot, fancying that, with so powerful a monarch, conciliation would be the best policy, at once sent to confirm him in possession; and, further, deputed an embassy to Louis IX., then at Tunis, to pray he would use his intercession with his brother, that he might be induced to remain satisfied with these lordships, and be dissuaded from contemplating any further extension of conquest in that direction: unfortunately for the object of the embassy, their arrival had been preceded by the decease of the French King.*

The overture of allegiance from the garrisons of Chinard's castles came most acceptably to Charles, whose visions of conquest in the Eastern empire thus acquired a more promising semblance of reality; but to ensure his right, he caused it to be inserted in the treaty which he made with Baldwin, the fugitive Emperor of Constantinople, at Rome, in 1267. By this treaty, Baldwin, who was accompanied by William of Ville-Hardouin, Prince of Achaia, also brother-in-law to Nicephorus, bound Charles, for him and his heirs, to have two thousand

* Ducange, *Hist. de Constantinople*. He quotes Pachym. L. vi, ch. xxxi. Summonte, L. ii, dell *Istoria di Napoli*, p. 157. Raynald. *An.* 1254—64. Menimet Guill. Cynardi.

men-at-arms ready at the end of six years, who were to serve in the principality of Achaia, and to be kept there for one year; and further stipulated that his son Philip should espouse Isabella, daughter of Ville-Hardouin. For this service, the Princes of Achaia and Morea were in future to do homage to the Kings of Sicily, and the Emperor Baldwin on his part renounced all claim to the dower of Helena Angela Comnena, daughter of Michael, Despot of Epirus, and widow of Manfred, King of Sicily, whom Charles retained prisoner in the maritime castle of Salvatore, where she was kept confined till the year 1282, when she was released at the petition of Peter of Arragon.*

It would appear from this, that the island had previously been given up by treaty to the Despot Michael, especially as, in the year 1281, the Venetians† joined the league which Charles and the Emperor of Constantinople made against Michael Paleologus, and which was only prevented being carried into execution by the celebrated Sicilian Vespers.

Charles of Anjou attached no other importance to his acquisition of Corfú than as a strong strategic point, for he never added it to his other numerous

* Corps Diplomatique Búrigny, Hist. de Sicile, B. iii.

† Muratori, Annali d'Italia, vol. vii.

titles*. During the reign of Charles II., it formed part of the feofs of his fourth son, Philip, Prince of Tarento, who, on the death of his uncle Philip without issue [1277], had been created titular Prince of Achaia, and became, by his marriage with Catherine, daughter of Baldwin Count of Flanders, titular Emperor of Constantinople; but this Prince was too much occupied by the affairs of Sicily, to look much after his foreign possessions, and under his rule the island was twice overrun by the partizans of James of Arragon. For, on the 22nd June, 1286, a squadron of twenty galleys, manned by Messinese and men of the east coast of Sicily, sailed from Messina, under the command of one Berenger Villaraut. Directing his course towards the Capo delle Colonne, he scoured the seas of Cotrone, Tarento, and Gallipoli, capturing all hostile vessels, except those engaged in trade with Venice. He offered battle at Brindisi, and having waited ineffectually three days for the enemy's galleys, sailed upon Corfú, where there still remained a portion of the armament which Charles of Anjou had destined to proceed against Greece. Here the

* See especially a compact between Charles of Anjou and the State of Sibenici, in 1274, where all his titles are carefully enumerated. Also, Homage prêté à Robert, Duc de Bourgogne, par Charles, Roi de Jérusalem et de Sicile, pour le Comte de Nevers, 1282.—*Corps Diplomatique*.

Sicilians disembarked, encountered a band of French mercenaries, defeated them, and sacked the country. It was again wasted by Roger di Loria, in the year 1291.*

Charles the Second, at his death, bequeathed the several principalities which Philip of Tarento possessed, to him and his heirs for ever, providing that, failing male issue, they should descend through the female line.†

He was succeeded in his titles and feofs by his eldest son Robert [1322], from whom we have the

* Giannone, *Istoria di Napoli*. War of the Sicilian Vespers, by Michele Amari, vol. ii.

† The gift is thus recorded in a will of that monarch, dated 16th March, 1308 :

Item relinquimus jure institutionis eidem Philippo filio nostro Principi Achaye et Tarenti ducentas uncias auri annuas solvendas sibi in vita sua tantum, de Camera Regis vel super aliquibus Regni partibus assignandas, ultra Principatus Achaye et Tarenti et terras alias ac provisiones quas ex dono celsitudinis nostræ tenet. In quibus omnibus ipsum Principem instituimus heredem, et si in vita nostra decederet dimissis liberis masculis vel feminis aut utrisque, natis vel nascituris, substituimus ipsos liberos ipsis Principatibus, et prædictis terris, quas scilicet ex collatione nostra perpetuo tenet vel tenebit tempore mortis suæ, majoris natu et sexus masculini inter eos prerogativa servata. Minores vero ex ordine substituimus in provisione ipsis debite a Principatibus et terris eisdem juxta consuetudinem et constitutionem predictis.—*Corps Diplom.*

only information relative to the revenue of the island in that age : for, on his marriage with Maria of Bourbon, in 1347, he gave her as dowry two thousand ounces of gold a-year, one thousand being on his principality of Tarento, the other between Corfú and Cephalaria.* Robert, dying without issue, bequeathed his estates to his brother Philip [1363], at whose death, the male line of the Anjou Princes of Tarento became extinct [1368].

The last Prince had, shortly previous to his death, appointed Giacomo di Balzo, son of his sister Margaret and of the Duke of Andria, as his successor ; and he likewise assumed the title of Emperor of Constantinople : but, owing to his having joined the opposite faction, he was deprived of his principality by Joan, Queen of Naples, who bestowed it upon her husband, Otho of Brunswick [1371].† At Joan's death, Louis of Anjou, to whom she bequeathed her kingdom, made himself master of the principality, and erected Corfú into a marquisate which he bestowed on Foulque Dagout, his Seneschal of Provence.‡

The numerous factions which had for so many years divided the kingdom of Naples, and the dis-

* Ducange, Hist. de Constantinople, Lib. viii.

† Giannone, Ist. di Napoli, t. iii.

‡ Testamentum Ludovici, Regis Jerusalem et Siciliae, &c. 1283.—*Corps Diplom.*

orders arising from their contentions, rendered these gifts almost nominal; and the Corfiots, unable to protect themselves, and exhausted by this frequent change of masters, sent an embassy to the Lord of Padua requesting his protection. Eager to obtain such an accession to his dominions, this Prince lost no time in sending out a Paduan garrison to occupy the island; but the Carrara being then at war with Venice, the Admiral of the Republic, John Miani, sailed for Corfú, and compelled its garrison to surrender after a short siege [1386].*

The civil wars which raged in the kingdom of Naples, and which had been increased by the murder of Charles of Durazzo, enabled the Venetians to take quiet possession of their new conquest; and when his son Ladislaus had established his sway throughout the kingdom,† he was easily prevailed upon to sell to them, for the sum of one hundred thousand florins, all the places in Dalmatia over

* Daru, Hist. de Venise.

† Raimondo di Balzo, of the house of Orsini, Count of Lecce, had, on the death of Otho of Brunswick, seized the greater part of the duchy of Tarento. At his death, in 1405, Ladislaus overran the principality of Tarento, but was unable to reduce the city, which was defended by Raimondo's two sons. It was, however, given up to him on his marriage with their sister Maria. (Muratori, Annali d'Italia.) He thus obtained a nominal right to Corfú, which had ever been attached to the principality.

which he exercised a nominal sovereignty, and to recognize the rights of the Republic *to its ancient limits*.* Thenceforward, Corfú became the headquarters of one of the two fleets of observation which Venice kept at the entrance of the Adriatic, to protect her pretended rights over the whole Gulf.

* Sismondi, Rép. Ital., ch. lii, 60.—The Senator Giacomo Diedo gives the following version; but, as Daru, with all the archives of Venice at his disposal, was unable to come to any satisfactory conclusion, and since, from the state of anarchy in which Naples then was, it is not probable the Republic of Venice would have had cause to fear the then Princes of Tarento, I did not think it right to adopt it:

Seguitando però il senato il càuto contegno de' maggiori, spedi Pietro Compostella Segretario all Principe di Tarento per averne l'assenso, dimostrando il pericolo, che cadesse l'Isola in potere di Principe poco amico; e per agevolare il conseguimento gli fece efferire in ricompensa buona somma di solda. Non venne però l'Isola in potere della Repubblica, che nell'anno mille trecento ottanta sei, in cui fu da Ricardo Altavilla, e da Giovanni Alessio consegnata con publico stromento à Giovanni Civrano, Capitano del Golfo godendone i Veneziani il possessio con tal titolo fino all'anno mille quadro cento uno, in cui da Ladislav Re di Napoli fu loro fatta l'intiera cessione coll esborso dè trenta milla Ducati.

A Greek chronicle, quoted in Leake's Northern Greece, vol. iv, B. ix, states that the Venetians had a Bailo at Corfú in 1386.

PART III.



MODERN HISTORY OF CORFÚ.

CHAPTER I.

DURING the first century that the island was under the dominion of the Venetian Republic, the Corfiots appear to have been satisfied with their change of masters ; and to have enjoyed so much tranquillity, as to be in a position to afford shelter to Thomas Paleologus, when, in 1460, he fled before Mahomet : and, though he himself proceeded to Ancona, he left the Empress there behind him, where she died, 1462.* However, in the year 1483, during the war which the Republic sustained against Hercules of Ferrara, Frederick of Arragon, with forty galleys, attempted to seize the citadel ; but he was repulsed, with a loss of a thousand men, by the bravery of George Viari, who was then governor.† [1483]. Wearied of a fidelity

* Sismondi, Rep. Ital. ch. lxxix.

† Univ. Hist. Venice.

which had lasted nearly a century, the disaffected spirit of the people again manifested itself against their rulers. The protection afforded by Venice to the Pisans, against the Florentines, having prolonged for four years the wars of Italy; the Florentines, the Duke of Milan, and the Pope, endeavoured to divert the attention of the Republic, by exciting against it the resentment of the Sultan: to whom the commercial avidity and the increasing power of the Venetians frequently gave causes of discontent. Dissensions were, accordingly, spread among the Corfiots; and some of the inhabitants promised to deliver up the citadel into the hands of the Turks: but, the plot being discovered, an attempt which Bajazet made on the island was easily frustrated.*

We now enter upon a new era, in the affairs of Europe: when the discovery of America, the doubling of the Cape of Good Hope, and the spread of the Reformation, were to cause the rise and fall of many empires. The wealth acquired by commerce with East, and which was then monopolized by the enterprising citizens of the Italian republics, was to flow into the treasuries of Spain and Portugal. Luther had, within the last few years, thrown the Christian world into a state of commotion; and the Protestant cause had been strengthened by the

* Daru, Hist. de Venise.

league of Smalcalde. Charles V., occupied by his wars with Suleymán, endeavoured to draw the Venetians into closer alliance; to which they were prompted by the Pope, who wished them to take up arms for the Catholic cause. But Venice, afraid that any junction between her and the Emperor would give umbrage to the Turks, by which her trade with the East would be endangered, determined to maintain a strict neutrality; and, at the same time, to be on her guard against any sudden attack. For which purpose, she equipped a fleet of sixty galleys, which was afterward increased to one hundred, and raised a body of eight thousand men for her foreign possessions.

The fleet was divided into two squadrons: one, of forty-six galleys, commanded by the Captain of the Gulf, cruised along the coast of Dalmatia; whilst the other, consisting of fifty-four, under the Admiral of the Republic, Jerome Pesáro, was stationed at Corfú.

The army of the Grand Signor, then occupied in besieging the town of Apulia, was encamped at Vallona, a fine harbour about forty miles north of Corfú on the coast of Albania. The constant passage of transports, conveying troops, provisions, ammunition, &c., to and from the kingdom of Naples, readily gave rise to accidents. A galley of the Republic, having fallen in with a small

Turkish merchantman laden with provisions, made signals to her to lower her ensign, a proceeding which was quite in accordance with the usual custom: the Turkish captain, however, not obeying, his ship was fired into and sunk. Suleymán, irritated at the news of this occurrence, sent a dragoon,* with three galleys, to Corfú, to obtain an explanation of the circumstance: but, the Turks having again failed to make the proper signals, when rounding the northern point of the island, they were attacked by the Venetian squadron of observation, consisting of four galleys, and driven upon the coast of Albania. Pesáro, vexed at this fresh accident, restored the crews to liberty; but, foreseeing the anger of the Sultan, he made sail for Dalmatia, in order to effect a junction with the Captain of the Gulf. Owing, however, to the prevalence of contrary winds, he was unable to accomplish his purpose in time to avoid a Turkish fleet of eighty sail, which compelled him to retire, with the loss of five galleys.

The news of these hostilities threw the Republic into consternation; and, to appease Suleymán, those officers of whom he complained were sent to

* Or "Targumân," *interpreter*. The word is from "Targum," *interpretation*, common to all the Shemitic languages, and the Persian adjectival termination *ân*. Similarly to *Múslimân*, erroneously written *Mussulman*.

Venice in chains. The Grand Seignor, however, far from being pacified by the attempt at conciliation, removed his camp to Butrinto, and landed five thousand men, and thirty guns, upon the island, under the command of the famous Barbarossa.* These were not a sufficient force to undertake the reduction of a place garrisoned by four thousand men, and well provisioned; but the body of disembarked Turks could only be looked upon as an advanced guard.†

The Venetian Senate, calling to mind the circumstances of the recent siege of Rhodes, ordered their Generalissimo to assemble his entire forces, and to form a junction with the Imperial fleet under Doria [1537]. But in the meantime, the Turks, having made an ineffectual attempt on the citadel, which was defended by Babon di Nalda, burned the villages, laid waste the country, and most unexpectedly re-embarked, carrying off all the inhabitants who had been unable to take refuge within the city. ‡

So enervated, however, had the Venetian tactics become, that the abandonment of the island by an enemy, after having completely ruined and devastated it, was esteemed a triumph by the degraded

* Diedo, *Ist. di Venezia*, t. ii, says twenty-five thousand men.

† Daru, *Hist. de Venise*.

‡ Diedo, *Ist. di Venezia*, t. ii. Univ. Hist. Venice.

spirit of its defenders. "Not to be utterly destroyed was thought a victory." Thanksgivings for the propitious event were offered up in Venice; solemn processions were made through the streets; masses were celebrated in all the churches; and alms were lavishly distributed among the poor.*

Forced, in a certain degree, to assume a tone of decision, Venice, at last, formed an offensive and defensive alliance with Charles V. and the Pope; while she, at the same time, obtained peace from the Porte, by sacrificing some of her possessions in Dalmatia, the Archipelago, and the Morea [1538]. In anticipation, however, of future ruptures, Corfú was strongly fortified, through the advice of Sforza Pallavicino, the Generalissimo of their land forces† [1559]. In a work published at Venice, in 1573, by one Simon Pinargenti, there is given a plate of the citadel, representing it with a fort upon each of the summits, and a wall, with towers at intervals, extending from the height nearest the sea, to the ditch. The land front is formed of two large bastions and the ditch. The Mondrachio appears to have extended further back. There are but few buildings within the citadel, and no traces of a town beyond it. In a map, which is affixed to the same work,

* Hist. Venice, Fam. Lib. vol. ii.

† Diedo, Ist. di Venezia, t. ii.

the villages which are therein indicated, comprise only Casali; Gardichi, a small fort; Pagiopoli, a fort on the site of the ancient town; S. Spirito; San Angelo, a fort; Potamo, a fort; and St. Maria di Cassópo.

For some years, amicable relations were steadily maintained with Turkey, whose strength, meantime, was continually progressing; until the accession of Selim II.; this potentate early manifested an inclination to break through the subsisting alliance, and assiduously sought causes of offence against the Republic [1566]. Throwing off, at last, all disguise, he haughtily demanded the island of Cyprus; menacing that, in case of refusal, he would carry devastation into the uttermost parts of the Republic. His threats were but too soon fulfilled. Cyprus was invaded and taken; although with a loss on the side of the Turks, of fifty thousand men [1570]. Emboldened by success, they laid waste the Morea, and the adjacent islands; and an Ottoman fleet of two hundred sail appeared before Corfú: but, finding the island well prepared for defence, it continued its way up the Adriatic.

The Venetians, alarmed at the near approach of the Turks, fortified their capital, and exerted themselves to rouse the Spaniards in their cause; in which endeavour, with the assistance of the Pope, they at last succeeded. The Turkish Admiral, in the mean-

time, satisfied with the glory of having insulted Venice in her own seas, and being apprehensive that, if he protracted his stay, the confederates would hasten to her relief, and blockade him in the gulf, changed his course and steered for Corfú; where his forces continued fifteen days, plundering the villages, and devastating the country, without however adventuring any attempt to lay siege to the fortress.* He then made sail for the Morea. Shortly after the departure of the Turks, the Christian fleet, consisting of three hundred sail, and carrying fifty thousand foot, and four thousand five hundred horse, under the command of the celebrated Don Juan of Austria, arrived in the harbour of Corfú. He thence sailed to Gomenizza; and, having there obtained information that the Turkish fleet was off the Gulf of Lepanto, he followed them thither, and defeated them, in one of the most signal victories that have obtained a place in the annals of the world [Oct. 7th, 1571]. After the engagement, he returned to Corfú, where a division of the enemy's spoils took place. But the Venetians soon found that these victories obtained nothing for them, beyond humbling a power, whose friendship was absolutely necessary to their interests, and which they felt the importance of preserving at every sacrifice. The Senate, conse-

* Univ. Hist. Venice.

quently, determined to treat about peace. For the sake of recovering all their former privileges in trade with the Ottoman dominions, they gave up the town of Sopoto in Albania, and the rich island of Cyprus; raised their annual tribute for the island of Zante from 500 to 1500 ducats; and paid down 300,000 more as an indemnity for the expenses of the war [1573]. It seemed as if it had been the Turks who had gained the battle of Lepanto.*

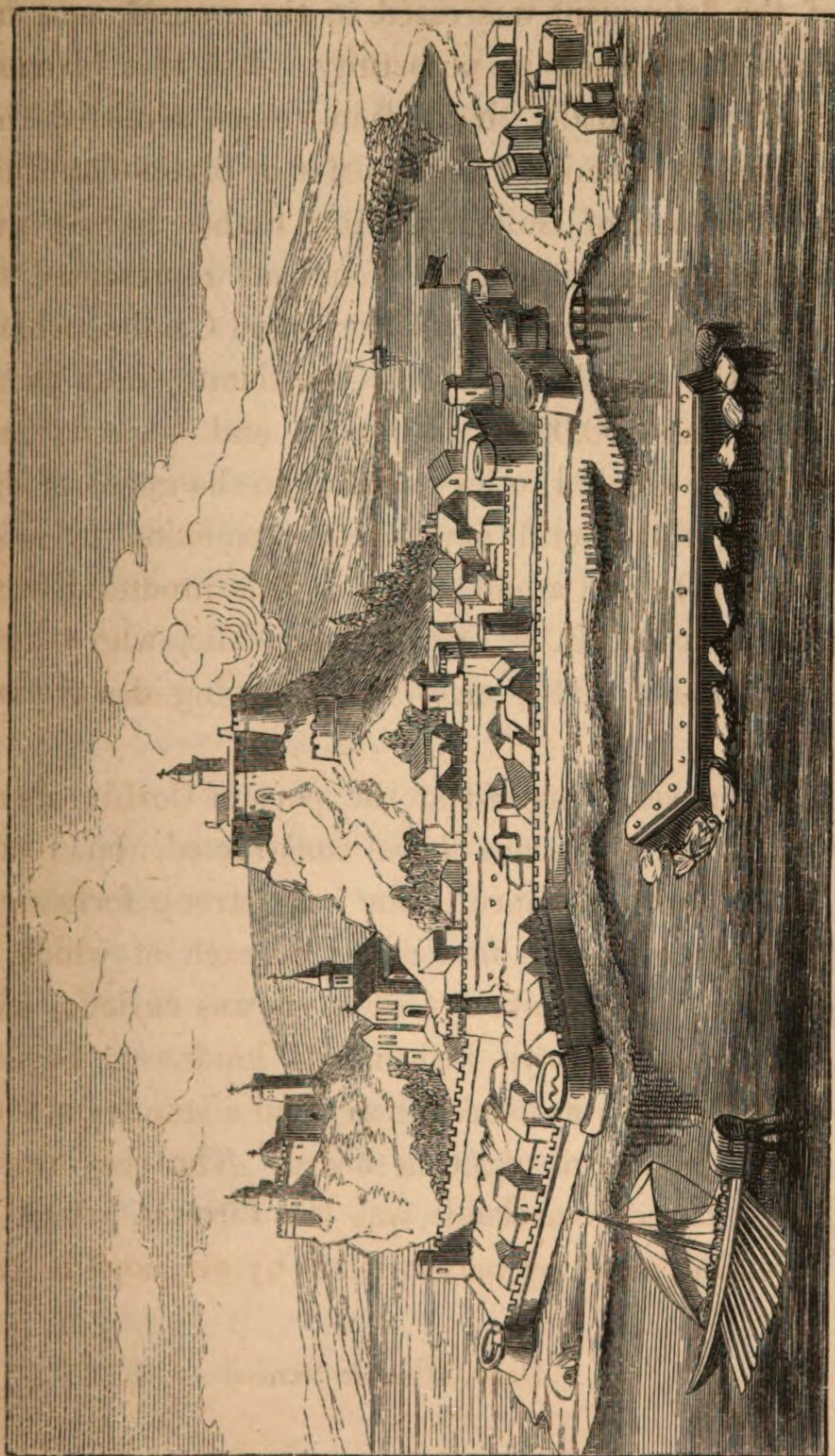
During the following century, with the exception of the war against the Usocchi, and the siege of Candia, the Republic was more occupied in upholding its nominal dignity among European states, than in devising military achievements. Corfú, however, was ever jealously guarded, although at great expense. Owing to the constant dread of hostile ravages from the opposite continent and Turkish pirates, the island was but little cultivated: and the inhabitants congregated near a few fortified villages, which had been in feof, as late as 1532, to a Venetian nobleman. The Republic, therefore, obtained but little revenue from it, except from the salt pans of Alefkimo, which were appropriated to the state; and to monopolise which, it was made a crime for any of her subjects to obtain foreign salt. The house

* Daru, Hist. de Venise.

of the delinquent was razed to the ground, and he himself banished in perpetuity. But this revenue produced so little, that, when Venice admitted the children of Camilla Peretti, sister of Sixtus-Quintus, to the Book of Gold, the Holy Father having expressed his gratitude, the Venetians represented to him that the protection of Corfú and Candia, which were the two bulwarks of Christianity, cost them more than 500,000 écus a-year, and begged they might be allowed to levy a tenth on the goods of the clergy; the Pontiff gave them permission to raise four-tenths and a half a year. This produced from 60,000 to 80,000.* Pietro della Valle, who visited the island in 1614, gives the following description of it:

“Our vessel arrived at the port of Corfú; about which the Venetians have constructed, on roads which frown defiance, some very strong fortresses. We remained here four days; on each of which, I went on shore to observe whatever was curious, and was treated always with much kindness; Signor Fabio Aronio, an officer there, and a countryman of ours, sleeping at night on board. The only thing that I found remarkable was the fortress, which is defended more by nature than by art, and is im-

* Daru, Hist. de Venise.



FORTIFICATIONS OF CORFU IN THE SIXTEENTH CENTURY. FROM A PRINT IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

pregnable. Here, the defunct human body is preserved so perfectly, that, in the instance of one in particular, although he lived in the time of the First Council, his flesh appears yet lively and fresh; that of his leg, when touched, rising again from the pressure. Here also lives a man, reputedly of the race of Judas; whether this be true or false, (it is denied by himself,) I know not: I however remember a servant of ours, who had resided at Corfú, affirming that some one of the Apostate's descendants still existed there, and that a house was pointed out as that which he inhabited. The town, which is small, has little to recommend it—the buildings having more resemblance to huts than houses; the country, however, is beautiful.”*

From this account it appears, that the few years of repose, which the island enjoyed, induced its inhabitants to raise dwellings outside the citadel; although they did not think it safe to transfer their Patron Saint thither. The town increased so rapidly, that it was fortified in the modern manner, in the year 1671;† and when the successive loss of Cyprus, Candia, and the greater part of the Morea, caused the Republic to appreciate more fully the

* Pinkerton's Collection of Travels.

† Diedo, Ist. di Venezia, t. iii.

advantages they derived from the islands of the Ionian Sea, Corfú became the residence of a Proveditore-General. His authority in the island was supreme, and under him were appointed three functionaries by the Venetian Senate; viz., a "secretary," to whom was confided the detail of the political affairs of the islands; an "interpreter," who assisted in the relations carried on with the Turkish continent; and a "treasurer," who, besides the finances, had charge of the store and commissariat department. The law officers were appointed by the General, and their head was called a Chancellor.

The second officer in the island of Corfú was the Proveditore-Captain of the fortress. He had the military command of Corfú, Paxo, and Parga. As Proveditore, he had charge of the night police, and judged in all criminal matters which occurred during that time, for which purpose he had also a Chancellor. The day police, as well as all civil matters, were disposed of by a bailiff assisted by two councillors. All these officers were Venetian nobles, appointed by the Senate, and who, being appointed generally for two or three years, looked upon these positions as merely a means of repairing their dilapidated fortunes; and, though deriving this resource from a people whose interests they were bound to protect, they looked down upon the native

signori with almost the same disdain as they did on the *villani*. But the Corfiot nobles perhaps justified this feeling in a great measure, by the servile way in which they humoured these Venetian Barnabotti, and by the apathy which they evinced in resting contented with positions which, in more civilized countries, appertain to the middle classes of citizens, and which they appear even to have taken a certain pride in occupying; for, out of the small population, one hundred and fifty nobles were annually chosen to fill up the various municipal offices. Once a year, the nobles were honoured with a dinner at the house of the Proveditore-General, upon whom, however, it entailed no expense, as the Corfiots, by way of ingratiating themselves, amply supplied the festive board. Yet, this contribution proving insufficient, each guest slipped underneath his plate, previous to leaving the table, a small memorandum, respecting so many measures of oil, which he was to pay either in kind or money, at the first harvest. These memorandums were afterwards carefully collected by an aide-de-camp, who delivered them up to the Proveditore-General, and, according to the amount of the donations, were regulated the civilities paid to the guests on their leaving. The care of receiving these gifts was usually entrusted to a native noble, who, although

keeping the interests of the General in view, did not forget his own. This despicable traffic, equally base on both sides, did not yet want apologists; to such an extent were their feelings degraded.*

* St. Sauveur, Isles Ioniennes, t. ii.

CHAPTER II.

TAKING advantage of the treaties of Utrecht and Rastadt, which had given peace to all Europe, the Porte, which had never intended a final renunciation of the Morea, concentrated the whole strength of the Ottoman empire against Venice. [1713]. So unexpected was the attack, that, at the breaking out of the war, the forts were ungarrisoned and badly provided with ammunition, whilst the fleets were dismantled [1714]. Tinos, Corinth, Argos and Napoli di Romania, were taken without almost a shot being fired in their defence. At the news of these disasters, the Senate removed the Proveditore of the Morea with disgrace. But the Venetians were no longer the conquerors of Zara and Constantinople. The luxurious nobles were unwilling to give up the pleasures and in-

trigues of the capital, for the fatigues and dangers of a Turkish war. Twice was the proffered Captain-generalship refused; and when, at last, Andrea Pisani was prevailed upon to accept that important post, he received instructions not to attempt any reconquest, but merely to protect the islands at the mouth of the Adriatic.*

It now became certain that the next efforts of Selim would be directed against Corfú. Gangs of labourers had been assembled in Greece for the purpose of constructing a road, sixty feet in breadth, from Lárissa to Saiádha.† Depots of provisions were forming along the line of route;‡ and strong bodies of troops were mustering about Butrinto. The Senate, alarmed at the proximity of the seat of war, now began to take strenuous measures for the defence of the last bulwark of their boasted superiority in the Adriatic. Assistance was sought from the Courts of Versailles and Madrid. France, slowly recovering from her late disasters, was unable to grant any; but Spain, at the petition of Innocent XII., promised the co-operation of a fleet.§ Whilst the envoys of the Republic were pleading

* Fam. Lib. Ven. Hist. vol. ii.

† This road is still partly in existence, near Filiátes.

‡ Greek Chronicle, quoted by De Pouqueville, vol. v. Leake's North. Greece, vol. iv.

§ Daru, Hist. de Venise.

her cause with the other Christian powers, the Senate was making every exertion to recruit regiments in Italy and Germany ; and, at the instigation of Prince Eugene of Savoy, made a happy choice of their general of land forces, in the selection of Count Matthias John von Schulemburg.*

Born at Cendau, near Magdeburg, 8th August, 1661, Schulemburg had, from his earliest years, been brought up to the profession of arms, in which he so distinguished himself, that, in 1704, he was chosen by Augustus, King of Poland, to save the wreck of his Saxon army from the merciless hands of Charles XII. Opposed to the hero of the age, the splendid retreat which he effected, forced the Swedish monarch to exclaim : “ To-day Schulemburg has conquered us ;” and, although defeated afterwards at Frauenstadt, by General Renschild, the day remained more glorious to him than to the victor. It was during this campaign, that Schulemburg successfully tried, against Charles’ hitherto

* He was son of Gustavus Adolphus von Schulemburg, privy councillor to the Elector of Brandenburg. His sister Herrengard was mistress to George I. ; by whom she was created Duchess of Munster, in Ireland, and Countess of Kendal, in England. One of his nieces, Melosina von Schulemburg, was created, in 1772, Countess of Walsingham, and Baroness Aldborough. She married, in 1733, the great Earl of Chesterfield.

unconquered cavalry, the experiment of infantry receiving cavalry front-rank kneeling, instead of the usual *chevaux-de-frise*. In 1709, he commanded nine thousand Saxons in the Dutch service, at the siege of Tournay ; and the same year, at the head of the left of the right wing, he opened the battle of Malplaquet. His gallant conduct caused him to be noticed by Prince Eugene ; and it was at his recommendation that the Venetian Government made choice of Schulemburg, on whom they conferred the title of Field Marshal, with a pension of ten thousand sequins. The Emperor of Austria, likewise, for his services, conferred on him the title of Count of the Empire.*

Whilst the Government was thus actively employed, the new Captain-General was exerting himself to the utmost in endeavouring to place the island in an efficient state of defence. The town was well supplied with provisions and ammunition of every description. The whole of the inhabitants, including even the Jews, were armed and organized. All the troops, however, who were to have formed the garrison, had not arrived, when the Turkish fleet was signalled on the 5th of July.†

* Voltaire, Hist. de Charles XII. Cox's Life of the Duke of Marlborough, ch. lxxxi. Biographie Universelle.

† In the Greek Chronicle, quoted by De Pouqueville, vol. v, the Ottoman fleet is said to have consisted of sixty

Pisani, unwilling to risk an engagement, and wishing to avoid being blockaded in the harbour, set sail for the purpose of joining the fleet with which the Proveditore Cornaro was escorting the reinforcement of troops. Instead of pursuing him, the Kapitán Pashá, Janúm *Khojá*, proceeded to Butrinto, where an army of sixty-five thousand men was assembled, under the command of the Seraskier, Kará Mustafá Pashá.*

An immediate occupation of the island having been decided on between them, thirty thousand foot and three thousand horse were conveyed over to the saltpans of Potamo, near which they erected their camp; being screened from the observation of the garrison by the heights in rear of the village of Manducchio. During this operation, salvoes of artillery were heard to the north of the island; these were soon discovered to proceed from Pisani's fleet, which, having fallen in with Cornaro's just beyond the North Channel, was saluting, on its return, the Virgin of Kassópo.† The Kapitán Pashá at once

sultanas, forty gallions, besides galiotes and other small craft.

* Ibid.

† In the usual manner in which Pagan superstition has been connected with the Greek and Romish churches, the veneration which mariners had for Jupiter Cassius, was succeeded by that for the Virgin of Kassópo; and no seaman dared pass it without saluting it.

ordered the disembarcation to be discontinued, and sailed to meet the enemy; but he was unable to bring his fleet into line before the advanced squadron of the Venetians was upon him. A ship commanded by Flangini began the engagement: three more followed up the attack; and soon the whole of Cornaro's division was engaged. The enemy suffered severely from the steady fire of the Venetians; and Janúm *Khojá* took advantage of the approaching night to retreat into the harbour of Butrinto, where all his small craft had taken refuge; whilst Pisani sailed triumphantly into the bay with the loss of only one of the convoy, which, owing to the wind failing her, had fallen into the enemy's hands. The town of Corfú was, at this time, defended on the land side by a succession of supporting bastions, extending from the Bay of Kastrádhēs to the harbour of Manducchio, forming three fronts of fortification with outworks and glacis. It was further strengthened at the south side by a small fort, named that of Tenedos; and at its northern extremity by a fortress which, to distinguish it from the citadel or "fortezza vecchia," is to the present day known as the "Fort Neuf." To the east of the town, and separated from it by an enormous ditch, rose the citadel, which was then considered impregnable from the sea. The two fortresses were connected together by a loop-holed wall, which skirted the harbour. A great error had, however, been com-

mitted by the Venetian engineers. About three hundred yards outside the walls, are situated two eminences, known by the names of Mounts Abraham and St. Saviour. The first of these, which lay directly between the Turkish camp and the Fort Neuf, commanded the whole of the northern part of the fortifications and the Bay of Manducchio. The other, St. Saviour's, commanded the bay and suburb of Kastrádhés and the southern part of the fortifications. Yet, neither had these eminences been strengthened by permanent works, nor had the Venetian Proveditores seemed to have been aware of their importance to an enemy as offensive positions.

Schulemburg, conscious that the first operation of the Seraskier must be directed against these positions, intrenched strong detachments upon them; and these effectually repulsed an attack, which was soon after made upon Mount Abraham.

Kará Mustafá, on being defeated in his first attempt, resolved upon constructing supporting batteries on the heights between Mount Abraham and the Potamo Flats; but the slowness with which the Turks landed and transported their guns, caused such delay, that the month of August had begun, and only two batteries were completed. Considering these as sufficient to support his attack, the Seraskier determined upon carrying Mounts Abraham and St. Saviour by assault. The first of these was, for some time, valiantly defended by the Italian regiments;

which were, however, at last forced to give way, after having caused great loss to the assailants : but St. Saviour's was at once abandoned by the Germans who were posted there. As soon as these two important positions had been mastered, the Seraskier at once began to form batteries upon them ; but, instead of breaching the fortifications, they poured such a fire of shot and shell into the town, that the greater part of it was soon destroyed ; and the inhabitants were driven to take refuge in the citadel and the subterraneous passages which communicated with that fortress.

The Venetian admiral, to cut off all communication between the Ottoman army and fleet, endeavoured to bring the Kapitán Pashá to an engagement : but this the latter carefully avoided, being well aware how much his receiving any check would endanger the operations on shore. In the meanwhile, reinforcements arrived constantly, both to the besiegers and the besieged. Kará Mustafá did not appear to follow any regular system of attack. Day after day he endeavoured to take by assault those fortifications, which he had not attempted to breach. Although constantly repulsed, these repeated attacks, nevertheless, caused immense loss to the garrison, as well as to the besieging army. The constant explosion of mines ; discharges of grape and musketry ; covering the ground with planks bristling with nails ; nothing could check the obstinacy and per-



SIEGE OF CORFU BY THE TURKS IN 1715.
FROM A PLAN IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

severance of these assaults, which often lasted for hours.

The besieged began to feel that, were they to allow themselves to be surprised for a single moment by an enemy who renewed his attacks day and night, they would lose all the fruits of their desperate resistance: it was therefore determined to try the fortune of a sortie. Three hours before daylight, five hundred Germans and five hundred Slavonians debouched by two separate gates; and, at the same time, the batteries of the place, supported by those of twenty gallions, opened a heavy fire upon the enemy's camp, to divert his attention. The Slavonians put the Turkish advanced posts to the sword, penetrated into the trenches, and drove their defenders to the foot of Mount Abraham. Here, although they encountered fresh resistance, they continued their impetuous attack; when, suddenly, they found themselves assailed in rear. These unexpected foes proved to be none other than their German allies; who, owing to the darkness of the night, had mistaken them for the enemy. The untoward mistake was soon rectified; but not before the Slavonians had lost two hundred of their number, and that both the sortie parties were thrown into such confusion, that their commanders were glad to be able to effect any kind of retreat.

Shortly after this affair, the Seraskier received information of the disastrous defeat of the Turkish

army of the Danube at Peterwardein ; and saw that, in consequence, it would be necessary for him to raise the siege : but he determined that he would make one more attempt upon the town.— On the night of the 17th August, the whole of the Ottoman army was led to the assault. The garrison, outnumbered in every direction, was soon forced to abandon the outworks ; and Germans, Slavonians, and Italians, all successively retreated in confusion to Fort Neuf and the citadel. Whilst part of the assailants were hastily entrenching themselves on such points as they had carried, fresh bodies were endeavouring to force the gates. It was on one of the bastions near Fort Neuf that the engagement proved the most sanguinary. Schulemburg, Loredan the Captain of the fort, and Marc Antony Sala the Sergeant-General, were everywhere encouraging their men ; and found themselves not only supported by the male part of the population, but even by the women and priests. In one spot, where the assailants and assailed were engaged in a confused mass, the General, seeing a monk rushing to the charge with an iron crucifix, asked him what he was about to do. “*Lasciate, lasciate,*” cried out the monk, transposing his imprecations in his excitement, and blaspheming without being aware, “*lasciate, lasciate, Christi maledetti su la testa.*”

This terrible assault had lasted six hours, and the

Turks seemed to be but the more eager in their endeavours to take the place, when Schulemburg, at the head of eight hundred followers, debouched by one of the gates, attacked the enemy with fury in flank, threw them into disorder, drove them from the positions they had carried, and forced them to fly to their lines with a loss of two thousand men and twenty standards.

This engagement was succeeded by a fearful night. A furious tempest endangered the safety of the hostile fleet. Torrents of rain inundated the camp and trenches; the tents were overthrown and torn down by the wind. The autumnal rains, which set in annually at Corfú towards the end of August, had begun with rather more suddenness than usual; but the superstitious fears of the besiegers made them fancy that the very elements were engaged against them, and that their only means of escape were about to be taken from them: they loudly demanded to be re-embarked. At daylight, a number of sail were seen at a distance, which was ascertained to be the Spanish fleet, under the command of Don Baltazar Guevara, escorting a convoy of merchantment laden with provisions for the relief of the town.* The Seraskier, upon this discovery, immediately abandoned all hopes of reduc-

* Diction. des Sièges et Batailles.

ing the place ; and, having made known his intention of re-embarking to the Kapitán Pashá, the boats of the fleet were sent to bring off the remains of the Ottoman army. It had lost fifteen thousand men in this siege of but seven weeks' duration ; amongst the slain was Mukhtár, grandfather of Alí Pashá of Joánnina.*

On the morrow, a reconnoitering party, which had been sent out at the dawn of day, astonished at not meeting with the enemy at their usual advance posts, proceeded with caution, and found the whole camp abandoned. There remained all the tents, magazines, baggage, fifty-six guns, eight mortars, and a number of wounded.

Pisani immediately made sail to overtake the enemy : but the Kapitán Pashá, having landed the remains of the army at Butrinto,† was already far out to sea ; and the wind, blowing from the eastward, favoured the Ottoman fleet, whilst it detained the great Venetian men-of-war on the coast of Corfú. Pisani then continued the chase with his galleys ; but the enemy was enabled to take refuge in the port of Coron.

The Venetian Government, to perpetuate the high esteem in which it held Schulemburg's conduct,

* Leake's North. Greece, vol. i.

† Chron. quoted by De Pouqueville, t. v.

caused a statue to be erected to him within the citadel of Corfú [1717]. This public mark of honour was the more valuable at that time, from the fact that the Senate had but recently ordered several monuments, which the base adulation of the Corfiot nobility had, at different periods, dedicated to their Proveditores, to be thrown down. At his request, it also tolerated the Protestant worship, so far at least as was compatible with the principles of a Government which allowed a public sanction exclusively to the Churches of Rome and of Constantinople.* With a view to gratify the Greek part of the population, who, in their deliverance from the Turks, only saw the intercession of their patron, St. Spiridione, the Senate ordered that the tutelar image should be carried in solemn procession round the fortifications of the town, on the anniversary of its deliverance, which, the people were fond to believe, had been effected by the Saint's appearing to the terrified Turks, arrayed in the dress of a Greek bishop, during the height of the storm which occurred on the night of the great assault.

* Daru, *Hist. de Venise*. Schulemburg, in 1740, visited England, where he was received with much distinction. He died at Verona, March 4th, 1747, having been twenty-eight years in the service of the Republic. At his death, a statue was erected to him: the work of T. M. Morlaiter. It is now in the Salle des Modèles, at the Royal Arsenal, Venice.

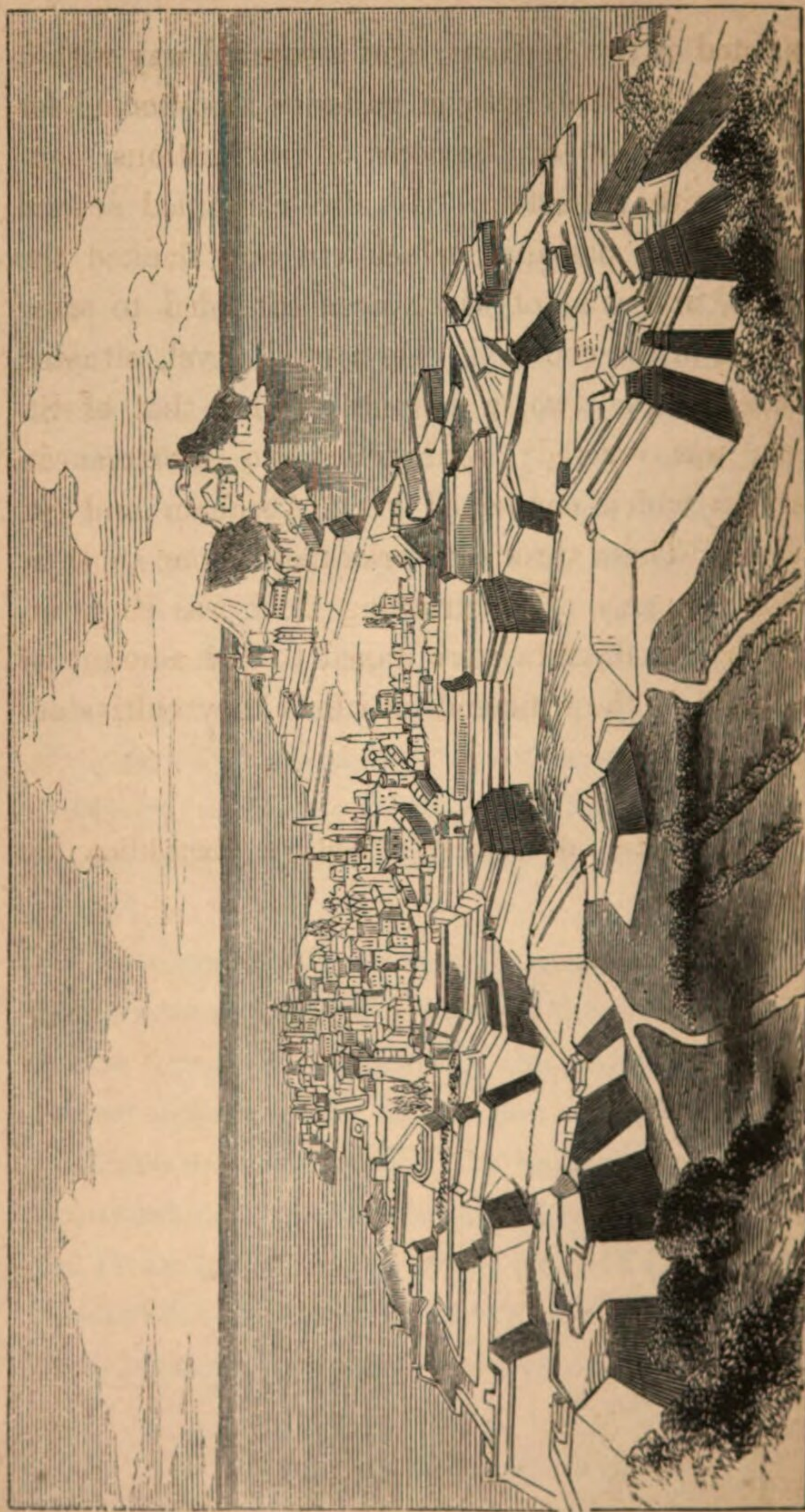
The defeat of the Turks at Corfú, did not, however, impair the energy with which they carried on the war in the other parts of the Venetian dominions : and the peace of Passarowitz, which was signed on the 21st of July, 1718, confirmed them in the possession of the Morea. Scarcely had this treaty been concluded, when a fearful accident nearly caused the total destruction of the citadel of Corfú, in the defence of which, only two years before, so many brave men had fallen. On the 28th of October, three powder magazines were struck by lightning ; part of the fortifications, and nearly the whole of the buildings, were overthrown. Four galleasses and a galley were sunk, and several of the shipping much damaged. Two thousand people were destroyed : including the Captain-General Pisani, and several of his staff ; who were buried under the ruins.*

The constant alarms which were created by the armaments of the Porte, caused the Government to decide upon strengthening the fortresses of the several islands in the Ionian Sea : and the superintendence of these works was entrusted to Marshal Schulemburg. Remembering the advantage which the Turks had obtained in the siege of Corfú, by the possession of Mounts Abraham and St. Saviour, he had them strongly fortified as outworks. Fort Abraham

* Diedo, Ist. di Venezia, t. iii.

The defeat of the Turks at Carthage did not, however, impair the energy with which they carried on the war in the other parts of the Venetian dominions; and the peace of Passarowitz, which was signed on the 21st of July, 1718, confirmed them in the possession of the flower. Scarcely had the treaty been concluded, when a fatal accident occurred, which caused the total destruction of the citadel of Carthage in the absence of which, only two years before, so many invasions had failed. On the 23rd of October, three powder magazines were struck by lightning; a part of the fortifications, and nearly the whole of the ballrooms, were overturned. Four hundred and a half tons of gunpowder and several of the shipping were destroyed. Two thousand people were drowned, and among them Captain (General) Smith, and several of his staff who were killed under the ruins.

The constant alarms which were raised by the arms and the sword, caused the Venetians to devote more attention to the fortification of the several islands in the Adriatic, and the expansion of their power was confined to the island of St. Mark. However, during the absence of the Duke of Modena, the Venetians were successful in the possession of the island of St. Mark, and the Duke of Modena was obliged to return to his capital.



FORTIFICATIONS OF CORFU, WITH THE OUTWORKS EXECUTED BY MARSHAL SCHULENBURG.

FROM A PRINT IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

consisted of two bastions, and a covered way with a triple flat of subterranean galleries loop-holed for musketry; Fort St. Saviour of two bastions, connected with a curtain. It also contained several subterranean passages, which cut and flanked the ditches, and some of which even extended to some distance in the country. On a small level, situated between these two, a redoubt, called that of St. Roch, was erected; containing two subterranean passages which connected Forts Abraham and St. Saviour. These three outworks flanked one another. But the expense of constructing them was so great, that the inhabitants were taxed to the amount of one-tenth in the wine and oil which they cultivated. [1723].*

* Daru, Hist. de Venise. Bellaire, Expédition du Levant.

CHAPTER III.

THE destiny of Venice had been decided by the peace of Passarowitz. Reduced to a state of passive existence, she had no more wars to sustain, no more treaties to make. Isolated in the midst of nations, blind to her own interests, insensible to insults, her honour was sacrificed to the vain hopes of an eternal peace, and yielded to the fear of giving cause for umbrage to other States.* Such a degraded condition of political existence but too clearly betrayed the corruption which prevailed throughout every class in the Venetian commonwealth. Posts which were once the reward of distinguished merit, were eagerly sought after as the means of retrieving broken fortunes ; and, although every Venetian noble

* Daru, Hist. de Venise.

could by law be Procurator of St. Marc, Proveditor, or General of the Ionian Islands, yet there were, in fact, but about sixty families which really possessed sufficient influence to be chosen members of the Government.* Then, again, a system of monopoly had arisen, which would not fail of proving most pernicious to the State; inasmuch as those in power were necessarily only answerable for their conduct to men who might at some future period require their good offices. It is true that the State Inquisitors of Venice encouraged the inhabitants of their foreign dependencies to report secretly upon the conduct of their governors; but the extraordinary powers confided to the latter made it dangerous for any individual to be suspected of a crime which, in the eyes of their rulers, displayed a guilt of the deepest hue. When, after the fall of Venice, the registers of the prison of Palma Nova were examined, one name was found entered on the books against a sentence to ten years incarceration for the murder of ten persons, and the next on the list condemned to twenty years imprisonment, "for having spoken ill of the Governor."† But great as was the power confided to the Podestas of petty districts, it was as nothing when compared to the unlimited license

* Lord Brougham on Political Philosophy.

† Vaudoncourt, Isles Ioniennes.

allowed to the rulers of their large foreign dominions. In the year 1454, the Council of Ten forwarded instructions to their generals commanding in Cyprus and Candia, to the effect that, in case there should be in the country any patrician or other influential person, whose political conduct were such as to make his death desirable, they should take away his life secretly, if, in their conscience, they considered such a measure to be absolutely necessary, and that they were willing to answer for it before God.* In the year 1615, the celebrated Padre Paolo,† in his “Opinion as to how the Republic ought to govern itself at home and abroad,” written by order of the Inquisitors of State, thus expresses himself: “For your Greek subjects of the island of Candia and of the other islands of the Levant, there is no doubt but there is some greater regard to be had of them, first, because that the Greek faith is never to be trusted; and, perhaps, they would not much stick at submitting to the Turk, having the example of the rest of the nation before their eyes. These, therefore, must be watched with more attention, lest, *like wild beasts as they are*, they should find an occasion to use their teeth and claws. The surest

* Daru, Hist. de Venise. Statuts de l’Inquisition d’État.

† See *ibid.* Liv. xxxix, for the character of this extraordinary man.

way is, to keep good garrisons to awe them ; and not use them to arms or musters, in hopes of being assisted by them in an extremity : for they will always show ill inclination proportionably to the strength they shall be masters of ; they being of the nature of the galley slaves, who, if they were well used, would return the kindness by seizing the galley, and carry it and its commander to Algiers : wine and bastinadoes ought to be their share, and keep good nature for a better occasion.

“ As for the *gentlemen* of these colonies, you must be very watchful of them ; for, besides the natural ferocity of the climate, they have the character of noblemen, which raises their spirit, as the frequent rebellions of Candia do sufficiently evidence. If the gentlemen of these colonies do tyrannize over the villages of their dominions, the best way is *not to seem to see it*, that there may be no kindness between them and their subjects ; but, if they offend in anything else, ’twill be well to chastise them severely, that they may not brag of any privileges more than others. It will not be amiss, likewise, to dispute all their pretensions to any particular jurisdiction ; and if, at any time, their nobility or title be disputed, you will do well to sell them the confirmation of it at as dear a rate as possible ; and, in a word, remember that all the good that can come from them is already obtained ; which was, to fix the

Venetian dominion: and for the future, there is nothing but mischief to be expected from them.”* The softening influence which had been exerted by civilization over the laws and institutions of almost every state of Europe, was unable to penetrate the austere and sanguinary statutes of the Venetian Inquisition: and, as late as the end of the seventeenth century, a decree was passed worthy of the darkest of the dark ages. As late as the year 1669, the same terrible council declares, that: “The public service often requires that the functionaries employed abroad, at least those holding important offices, should be anxious to cause a culprit to disappear, either because he is the head of a political party, or because the forms of law, always slow of themselves, not only cause delays, but allow of the culprit making appeals, which give him the time and means of saving himself. On the other hand, there is most serious objection to giving so great a power to functionaries, if precautions are not taken against their making use of their authority capriciously; as it is possible that they may allow themselves to be carried away by their temper to the abuse of authority so unlimited. Consequently, it is ordered that, when the councils shall have named any one to an important office, the tribunal will

* Emerson's Modern Greece.

attentively inquire into the character and conduct of the person named, whether he is an exact observer of justice, or of a disposition to be influenced by his affections, or accessible to bribery, which latter defect will be sufficient to exclude him from ever exercising an authority freed from legal forms. But if from this inquiry it is found that the functionary who has been nominated, is a man of known integrity and uprightness, the tribunal will confer upon him secretly the power of acting arbitrarily, without reference to any form, and in the same manner as the tribunal itself would act. This power shall, however, be so far restricted, that he shall be able to make use of it but once, upon a single individual, in an unforeseen and important emergency, where the delay of the usual forms would imperil the public interest. When he shall have once made use of this authority, he will have to give an account of it to the tribunal, and send to it all the information on the subject. The tribunal will attentively examine the particulars; and, if the three members unanimously agree that this summary and extrajudicial process has been employed for and on account of the public interest, this declaration shall be established, and the functionary shall a second time be authorised to employ the same means, if the occasion requires it; subject, however, to his sending information of the deed to the tribunal, so that

the measure may be approved of or otherwise. If approved of, the same authority may be renewed a third time on the same conditions. If, on the contrary, the conduct of the functionary is disapproved of in a single instance, this arbitrary power can no longer be entrusted to him, either in his present office, or in any other position which in after times he may be called upon to fill ; and the functionary shall be declared for ever incapable of being invested with this authority, in order that such misuse of it may not be repeated more than once. But, if the tribunal shall discover that he has made an ill use of it knowingly and through malice, the functionary, in his turn, shall be punished with the most severe penalties for this sacrilegious abuse of the public authority. If the abuse cannot be attributed otherwise than to ignorance, no further penalty shall be inflicted upon the functionary, beyond the aforesaid declaration of incapacity. Each time that the tribunal shall confer this unlimited power upon a functionary, at the time of his departure for his post, the deliberation shall be signed by the three inquisitors ; and the functionary shall declare on oath that he will only make use of it with equity and without passion. He shall be made responsible before God and before the tribunal ; and for his information the present article shall be read to him. This authority shall be granted only to the following

functionaries, provided that they possess the required qualifications: All Generals by land and by sea; the Ambassadors at Rome and Vienna; Ambassadors Extraordinary at other Courts; the Rectors of Padua and Brescia." With such a system as this, what could be expected from men in power!

Certain of impunity in their malpractices, the sums of money allotted by the public treasury for the maintenance of the garrisons, for munitions of war, and the repair of fortresses, were turned to their private profit; whilst the unfortunate inhabitants were looked upon as fair subjects for extortion. This system of public robbery spread, like a fearful disease, through all ranks of the Government; for, as all public functionaries were changed at certain fixed periods, and as their salaries were very small, they looked upon their offices merely as positions which enabled them to make rapid fortunes.*

This disgraceful system was fully exposed in the year 1773, owing to the Proveditore-General of the Ionian islands, Peter Quirini, having sold all the commissariat and ordnance stores, amassed at Corfú, to the Russians then at war with the Porte. Complaints were, in consequence, made by the latter power to the Senate, who, alarmed at the possibility

* Vaudoncourt, Isles Ioniennes. Sismondi, Rép. Ital. ch. cxxv. Bellaire, Div. Fran. du Levant. St. Sauveur, Isles Ioniennes, t. ii, ch. iv.

of a rupture with their old enemy, condemned Quirini to three years imprisonment.* But this system was so widely spread, that even the punishment of an offender of so high a rank was unable to check it; and when Venice fell before the conquering armies of the French Republic, the arsenals and military stores at Corfú were found to be in the greatest disorder, nearly all the guns dismounted, the gun-carriages rotten, and the fortifications and barracks in a state of dilapidation.†

Of the condition of the peasantry or *villani* we can only judge from that of the same class in the neighbouring states, where they were held under the most absolute subjection. It is generally supposed that the introduction of serfdom into the Eastern empire was owing to the conquest of that country by the Franks, but it was merely the ancient system of slavery, which, conforming itself to the feelings of the age, had become one of *villainage*, justified by law. The principal codes recognized in the Eastern empire, were the Pandects which were established in 534, and the Basilics. The first of these is full of regulations about slaves, and continued in

* Daru, Hist. de Venise.

† Although the number of guns, in the Ionian islands, was seven hundred and sixty, so extensive had been the system of peculation among the Venetian officials, that the quantity of powder, on the arrival of the French, in 1797, was only about sixty-nine thousand pounds.—*Bellaire, Expéd. Fran. du Levant.*

force for three hundred years. Basil I. attempted a revision of them, which was completed by his son Leo, the Philosopher, in 860, but little if any alteration was made in the position of the serfs. This latter code was in full vigour at the time of the Frank conquest, and, although two laws are sometimes quoted to endeavour to prove the desire the Emperors had of abolishing slavery, yet their purpose seems rather to have been intended to check the nobles in their lawless ill-treatment of the poorer classes. The first of these was a declaration of Alexis I., in the year 1094, which ordered that, if any person, being claimed as a slave, could obtain two witnesses of good character to swear that he had always been known as a freedman, the oath of the person so claimed would invalidate the suit. The same declaration further states that, if masters refuse to permit their slaves to marry according to the rites of the church, such slaves could claim their liberty. The second law was by Manuel I., in the middle of the twelfth century, granting freedom to all persons who had relapsed into slavery by the sale of their property, which reduced them to the necessity of cultivating the lands of others in a servile capacity, or who from starvation had been obliged to sell themselves.

Although villains and slaves were to a certain

degree held in different estimation, the one being the born bondsman of the landholder, part and parcel of the land which he tilled, whilst the other became his property by purchase or fortune of war, yet they were equally subjects of barter. The assizes of Jerusalem, which afterwards became the law throughout the French empire of Constantinople,* declare the value of one slave to be equal to a hawk or four oxen, three slaves, to twelve oxen or one war-horse. The conquest, however, of the Empire by the Latins, and its subsequent division into numerous feofs, must have greatly tended to the improvement of the serf's condition. The numberless wars between these freebooting barons, by occasioning a constant want of fresh levies, induced them to attract deserters from their enemies, through promises of freedom and reward.†

Under the dominion of the proud princes of the house of Anjou, it was not likely that their condition should be much ameliorated; but it was not only the barons of those climes who could boast of their

* Ducange, *Emp. de Constantinople*, Liv. ii.

† The state of rural servitude, in 1209, is exemplified in a letter from Innocent II. to the Archbishop of Patras, wherein he says: "*Assignans nihilominus eis rusticos, qui sine mercede vel expensis eorum in domo sua labores exerceant universos.*"

numerous serfs, for, in the charter by which Robert, titular Emperor of Constantinople, and Prince of Achaia, granted the castle and barony of Corinth to Nicolas Acciaiuoli, dated 1358, notice is taken of a letter from the Corinthians, complaining of the loss of their slaves by the ravages of the Turks. Destructive as the inroads of these wild Tartar tribes were to the wealthy citizens, yet the peasantry of the Grecian continent and islands have to thank them for the abolition of serfdom, of which they had no chance from their Christian rulers; for there is an act, dated 1424, by which Francesca, wife of Charles Tocco, Count of Cephalonia and Leucadia, gives to her cousin Nerio, one of her slaves, named Eudocia, to sell or emancipate. From a charter, dated 1437, in which Nerio II., Duke of Athens, liberates one Gregorius Chamuches, we find that one part of the duty of serfs consisted in transporting the agricultural produce brought to town on panniers, and the new wine from the wine press, and in collecting or paying a fixed present of oil or olives.*

This state of vassalage was never entirely eradicated from the islands, till they were occupied by the French, in 1797; for, although the actual ren-

* Roman Civil Law, by Patrick Colquhoun, vol. i.

dering of feudal services fell into oblivion, yet the nobles always kept their peasantry in a state of servitude; and, as it was contrary to the designs of the government to afford any protection to the latter, justice became an unknown word to them.

CHAPTER IV.

ON the 17th October, 1797, when the treaty of Campo Formio was signed, Venice was given up to Austria, and the Ionian Islands were yielded to France. General Bonaparte, aware of the importance of Corfú as a naval station, had determined that, whether Venice were, or were not, given up to the Emperor, France should at any rate keep the Ionian Islands. On the 13th September, he had written from Passeriano to the Minister of Exterior Relations on the subject: "The Court of Naples dreams of nothing but acquisitions and greatness. On one side it wants Corfú, Zante, Cephalonia, &c.; and on another, half the States of the Church, and especially Ancona. These pretensions are too

amusing. I think they mean to cede to us the Island of Elba in exchange. It appears to me, that the grand maxim of the Republic ought henceforth to be, never to abandon Corfú, Zante, &c.: we should find resources for our commerce, which would be of great moment to us, and to the future course of events in Europe.

“With the Island of San Pietro, which has been ceded to us by the King of Sardinia, joined to Malta and Corfú, we should be masters of all the Mediterranean.”*

From Corfú, the French squadron could, in the event of fresh hostilities, sail up the Adriatic and co-operate with the army of Italy; and, while it would keep the Court of Naples in check, the separation of the island from Venice would be an insurmountable obstacle to the Austrians having a navy of any importance. As soon, therefore, as the treaty was confirmed, Bonaparte united the small flotilla which was stationed in the Adriatic, with the ships found at Venice; mixed up the Venetian and French crews; and embarked two thousand men, under the

* Montholon, Mémoires de Napoléon à Ste. Hélène—Appendix.

command of General Gentili, to take possession of the islands.* The garrison of Corfú, at this time, consisted of only a few Slavonian and Italian troops. There were, nominally, nine regiments of Italian infantry, two Slavonian regiments, and an artillery regiment; every one of which consisted of nine companies of fifty men each: but the spirit of speculation had also spread throughout the army; and the colonels of regiments and captains of companies constantly sent in false returns of the number of men, as they thereby obtained the pay and allowances of those who were wanting. The Italian troops, on the arrival of the French, showed no symptoms of patriotism; but the Slavonians were highly dissatisfied with the partition of the Venetian States, and endeavoured to create disturbances: they were, however, too weak in number to effect anything; and General Gentili embarked them at once for Dalmatia. The whole of the Venetian possessions in the Ionian seas had been provisionally organized by General Bonaparte into three departments, viz. : Corcyra, Ithaca, and that of the

* Thiers, *Hist. de la Rév. Fran.*, t. ix, ch. ii. Daru, *Hist. de Venise*, ch. xxxviii.

Egean Sea;* which arrangement having been recognized by the French Government, M. de Beauharnais arrived at Corfú, in the beginning of the following year [1798], to announce their union with France. About the same time, General Gentili was succeeded by General Chabot, who brought with him a reinforcement of troops.

The arrival of the French had been viewed with pleasure by none. The nobles, almost all of whom were of Venetian descent, regretted the loss of their trumpery titles; whilst the priests looked with dismay upon the innovations which their invaders were introducing, for their first acts had been to establish a primary school, to open a printing-press, and to form a public library with a collection of all the books which were found in the several monasteries.† These two classes, who always possessed

* Dept. of Corcyra.	Dept. of Ithaca.	Dept. of the Egean Sea.
Chief town, Corfú.	Chief town, Argostoli.	Chief town, Zante.
Corfú.	Cephalonia.	Zante.
Paxo.	Santa Maura.	Strophades.
Fano.	Ithaca	Cerigo.
Merlero.	Calamos.	Cerigotto.
Vido.	Meganessi.	
Antipaxo.	Kastro.	
Butrinto.	Prevezza.	
Parga.	Vonitza.	

† Bellaire, Exp. Fran. du Levant, ch. ix.

great influence over the peasantry, endeavoured to induce the latter to revolt ; but their intrigues were checked for a time by the banishment of the Latin Archbishop to Dalmatia. The stay of the French in the island was, however, to be but of short duration. On the 1st August, their fleet was destroyed in the bay of Abúkír ; and, on the 1st September, the Porte, having concluded a treaty with Russia, by which his Imperial Majesty bound himself to furnish a fleet for the purpose of being employed against the common enemy, declared war against the French Republic, and ordered that all Frenchmen found in the Turkish dominions should be seized, as enemies to God, and men without faith or law.* The position of General Chabot now became most critical. The Commander-in-Chief of the army of Italy had only returned evasive answers to his constant demands for troops, ammunition, and provisions ; and the political situation of Albania, which was at this time almost completely under the control of Alí Pashá of Joánnina, gave him great cause to fear not only for the dependencies on the mainland, but also for his supplies ; for, though Alí had but lately made great protestations of friendship, he, at the same time, in a letter to General Chabot, demanded that Butrinto,

* Nelson's Dispatches, vol. vii. Addenda, p. 166.

Parga, Prevesa, Vonitza, and the fort of Santa Maura, should be given up to him.*

Instead of co-operating with the British fleet in driving Bonaparte out of Egypt, the blind policy of the Porte preferred assisting Russia in its endeavour to obtain a footing in the Mediterranean ; and their combined squadrons proceeded against the islands of the Ionian Sea. As soon as Alí Pachá received information of this movement, he at once began hostilities, and with a powerful army of Albanians, swept away the French from all their dependencies in Albania; and, on the 6th October, the fleet, composed of ten Russian sail of the line, four frigates, and several corvettes and brigs, under Vice-Admiral Ouschacow, and of thirty Turkish ships of the line, caravellas, corvettes, and brigs, under the orders of Abd-el-Kádir Bey, appeared off Cerigo.†

The time occupied by the combined fleet in reducing the lower islands, enabled General Chabot to make the best disposition in his power for defending Corfú; but the increasing ill-feeling shown by the peasantry of the island, who were instigated by a Patriarchal Bull, caused him great uneasiness : as, in the event of their joining the enemy, he would be entirely thrown, for his supply of provisions, upon

* Bellaire, Div. Fran. du Levant, ch. xiv.

† James' Naval History.

the towns-people. With a view to anticipate any attempt on the part of the latter, he had the whole of them disarmed, on the morning of the 3rd November,—but this only hurried on the catastrophe; for the partisans of Russia, finding themselves suspected, retired to the neighbouring suburbs, and so industriously fomented the growing disaffection, that, on the very same day, they prevailed upon the inhabitants of the suburb of Manducchio to raise the standard of revolt. Having sent all their women and children to the neighbouring village of Potamo, the Manducchiots posted themselves on the heights opposite Fort Abraham, where they were joined by many of the peasantry from the interior of the island.

General Chabot, seeing the absolute necessity of checking such a movement in time, attacked them at about seven o'clock on the following morning, with eight hundred men, and one field piece; but the countrymen had taken such advantage of the broken ground, and intrenched themselves so strongly in the houses, that they could fire upon the troops without exposing themselves. To save his men, the General ordered the village to be battered from Fort Neuf, and by three gun boats; and the houses, as soon as the peasantry were driven from them, were given to the flames. During this time, the line-of-

battle ship, *Généreux*,* sailed into the port of Manducchio, and directed her fire, throughout the whole of the afternoon, against the further end of the village. After a spirited defence of seven hours, the peasantry were driven from all their positions, and the troops retired into the town, disarming, on their way back, the inhabitants of the villages of St. Roch and Kastrádhes.

On the afternoon of the fourth, six large men-of-war having been signalled towards the south-east, the schooner *La Cybèle* was despatched to Ancona, to report the arrival of a combined fleet before Corfú. Early next morning, these anticipations were confirmed by a Russian line-of-battle ship and frigate, with two Turkish caravellas,† anchoring outside the island of Vido; whilst the two other ships remained cruizing off Lebenizza. The same day, the Russian Admiral sent an officer on shore, to demand the surrender of the citadel in the names of the Emperor of Russia and the Sultan; but he was informed that a place of such strength could not be given up without a struggle.

On the next evening, the French corvette *La*

* Shortly before arrived at Corfú with her prize, the 'Leander.'

† These were larger than frigates, with elevated poops, and carried fifty guns.

Brune, having arrived by the northern channel, and announced the promised assistance of three thousand men from Ancona, General Chabot determined upon a spirited defence. The garrison numbered only eighteen hundred men, consisting of the

79th Demi-Brigade, (23 companies) about	1450
5th Company of the 2nd Battalion of	
Sappers, about	90
Artillery, about	210
Corcyrean Gendarmes, about	50
	1800

Of this small force, two hundred men were placed in Fort Abraham, a company with some field pieces in the redoubt of St. Roch, and four hundred and fifty men, under the command of General Piveron, were sent over to Vido. In addition to these, about one hundred civil *employés*, staff, &c., were organized into two corps, one of artillery, and one of cavalry, to escort the General in sorties, act as *éclaireurs*, &c. The naval force consisted of the 'Généreux,' 84; the 'Leander,' 50, but badly manned; the corvette 'La Brune,' 32; a bomb-ketch, a brig, and four small galleys.

The enemy remained strictly on the defensive till the twentieth; when the remainder of the combined squadron joined them. On their arrival, the two

Admirals decided upon a plan of operation which partook more of the nature of a blockade than of a siege. The Russians were to land near Potamo, and direct their attack against Fort Abraham; the Turks were to take up a position near Kastrádhés, to attack St. Saviour's; whilst the fleet blockaded the harbour. Accordingly, on the 21st, the Russian and Turkish flag-ships, with six frigates and two brigs, moved up near to the Lazzaretto island, where the Russians formed their hospital; and daily disembarked men at the Potamo flats. On the 25th, they took possession of Mount Olivetto, a height in front of the Potamo flats, supported by artillery and strong bodies of countrymen; and though, next morning, at daylight, the garrison endeavoured by a sally to drive them from their position, the sallying party was forced to retire, having only made seven Corfiot prisoners, five of whom were condemned to be shot. The same day, General Chabot ordered the village of St. Roch to be burnt down, that it might not afford shelter to the enemy. In the mean time, the Russians formed a battery of heavy guns and howitzers on Mount Olivetto; and, the following morning, shelled the town, Fort Abraham, and Fort Neuf; compelling the French squadron to anchor off the Mandrachio. Whether it was owing to a misunderstanding between the two Admirals, or that, placing too much reliance upon exaggerated

statements respecting the strength of the garrison, they were looking forward to the effects of starvation as the probable means of a speedy capitulation: it was not before the 28th, that the Turks disembarked at Paleopolis; whilst the Russians, to form a connection with them, began to construct a battery on the heights of Kastrádhés, near the convent of St. Pantaleone. In the afternoon of the same day, the Turks were successful in surprising the small detachment at St. Saviour's; but it was almost immediately retaken by a party from the garrison.

General Chabot, unwilling to risk the loss of any part of his small force, restricted himself to strengthening his defences, and watching the undecided operations of the enemy. But, on the 1st of December, the Russian battery of St. Pantaleone having thrown shells into the citadel, it was considered absolutely necessary to destroy it. For this purpose, six hundred men, accompanied by two field-pieces, were marched out at nine o'clock that morning; the battery was stormed; the guns were spiked; and the enemy's artillerymen either killed or taken prisoners. In this sortie, one of the Mercati of Zante, a nobleman who held the office of Paymaster of the French division in that island, at a salary of two thousand four hundred francs a-year, being taken prisoner in the Russian ranks, was next day condemned to be shot. General Chabot,

taking advantage of the ardour inspired among his men by this success, proceeded to lead them to the attack of the battery on Mount Olivetto; but here they were repulsed with loss. During this last attack, the inhabitants of Kastrádhés fled from their village; the greater part of which was burnt down that same evening, lest it should afford shelter to the enemy in any future attack on St. Saviour's.

For some days, the besiegers occupied themselves in strengthening their positions; but, on the 12th, the Russians, having completed two new batteries on Mount Olivetto connected with strong intrenchments, reopened their fire, which never ceased till the town capitulated: their artillery, however, caused little loss to the garrison; for, as the Russians always fired in salvos, the besieged took refuge each time; and returned to their guns between the intervals.

On the 14th, the Turks extended themselves in single line from Potamo to the heights of Karidachio; and repulsed a body of skirmishers, which had been sent to harass them in this movement, as far as the glacis of Fort Abraham: upon which, the General, with two hundred men, made a diversion upon the heights of Karidachio and the salt-pans of Kastrádhés, which induced the enemy to fall back upon Potamo. On the 16th, the Turks again made a movement towards the salt-pans of Kastrádhés; and were, a second time, driven

back to Potamo : they, however, succeeded in effecting their object, on the 4th of January ; and, although General Chabot, with five hundred men and two guns, endeavoured to check their movement, he was obliged to retire before the increasing numbers of the enemy. The same day, the French brig-of-war ‘ Rivoli,’ succeeded in entering the harbour.

Owing to the frequent movements of the Turks in the direction of Kastrádhés, General Chabot began to fear for St. Saviour’s ; although, from the dilatory manner in which their operations were carried on, it was difficult to discover what their real intentions were. As he was unable to spare a sufficient number of men to garrison the whole of the fort, he ordered its left bastion to be cut off by a coupure strengthened with a palisaded parapet. At the end of ten days, it was finished ; and a hundred men were placed within it. About this time, it being considered useless to keep the squadron ; as, in case of the town having to surrender, it would of course be included in the capitulation ; the ‘ Généreux,’ ‘ Rivoli,’ and ‘ La Fortune,’ taking advantage of a dark night, sailed for Ancona, on the 5th of February : and escaped with a favourable breeze.

CHAPTER V.

ON the morning of the 10th, in consequence of numerous corps of Turks having been disembarked during the night, and taken possession of the village of Kastrádhés and all the heights about it; it appeared evident that they had at length determined upon attacking St. Saviour's. This position was of such importance to the garrison, that General Chabot was resolved to make a vigorous effort to prevent its capture. On the same day, therefore, he attacked the enemy with three separate bodies of two hundred men each. The first, supported on its right by three field-pieces, was to intercept a junction between the Turks at Potamo and those at Kastrádhés; the second was to form on the glacis of St. Saviour's, and attack the centre of the village of Kastrádhés, which then extended to the

sea-shore; whilst the third was to proceed along the shore, in order to make a simultaneous attack upon the enemy, who were intrenched in the houses bordering upon the sands. The columns of the left and centre succeeded in driving the enemy from St. Athanasius to St. Pantaleone; but the Turks, rallying here behind their intrenchments, in their turn assumed the offensive, and drove the French entirely out of the village. The column on the right was not more successful; and the whole were driven back to the glacis of St. Saviour's. The General, having reinforced the garrison of that fort with two hundred men, retired into the town with the remainder. That night, the Turks hoisted two guns on the top of the bell tower of the church of St. Athanasius; but the batteries of the fort soon destroyed it. On the 11th, Admiral Ouschacow, observing the slowness with which the Turks carried on the operations on their side, reinforced them with a body of Russians, who were landed at Kastrádhes; while he ordered a strong battery to be formed at St. Pantaleone. Although the garrison kept up a constant fire, the enemy had formed by the 18th a battery of ten guns upon the approaches to the village; and, by the 24th, a battery of twenty guns parallel with the citadel and the south-east end of the town. These batteries began their fire in concert with that on Mount Olivetto; but the

French, being now in want of ammunition, could only return one shot out of ten. On the 26th, the Turks again attempted to form a lodgment on the glacis of St. Saviour's; but were forced to retreat to Kastrádhés.

About this time, the English eighteen-gun brig, 'El Corso,' Commander Lord William Stuart,* who had been despatched for the purpose of inducing the Russian and Turkish Admirals to send some of their fleet to Messina, joined the combined squadrons.† Lord Nelson had repeatedly solicited Admiral Ouschacow to take a more extended view of the intended operations; and to remember that Corfú, being but a secondary object, must fall of itself, when the French had been driven from the more important positions in Italy and Egypt: but the Russian Admiral, knowing the unfitness of his ships to keep to sea during the winter, preferred carrying on the protracted siege of the island.‡ However, Lord William Stuart, who was a young man of a particularly bold and imperious disposition, on his arrival, caused the operations to proceed

* Bellaire, Div. Fran. du Levant, mentions Commodore Stewart, but the only officer of that name then in the Mediterranean, was Commander Lord William Stuart. See Schomberg's Naval Chronology, vol. iv.

† Nelson's Dispatches, vol. vii, p. 175 of Addenda.

‡ Ibid., vol. iii.

with more vigour : and it was soon decided, that a combined attack should be made upon three points at once ; viz., the Island of Vido, Fort Abraham, and Fort St. Saviour. Owing to a deficiency of money and materials, General Chabot had been unable to construct either a fort or an enclosed redoubt on the Island of Vido, which, at this time, was a large olive grove : but batteries, numbering forty guns, had been formed upon the five most saillant points of the island ; whilst such other points as appeared favourable for disembarking, were defended by trenches and abattis. The troops were bivouacked upon the heights overlooking the batteries, and on such points as appeared favourable for defence. The bombard, 'La Frimaire,' and some demi-galleys, formed a floating battery in the small harbour on the west of the island. The engineers had also constructed reverberating furnaces near the shore batteries. The defence of the island could, however, only be temporary ; for it did not possess even a small redoubt, where the garrison might concentrate their defence, in case of the enemy disembarking at several points : and, besides, the guns on the batteries, being mounted on old ship-carriages, could be manœuvred but very slowly, and with extreme fatigue to the men.

The enemy, having completed their arrangements

by the night of the 28th February ; on the following morning, at eight o'clock, two guns were fired from the Russian flag-ship. At this signal, the allied fleet made for Vido ; and took up their positions, within half gun-shot, in a direction from west to north-east : whilst simultaneous attacks were made on Forts Abraham and St. Saviour, by bodies of Russians and Turks respectively, who were supported by the batteries of Mount Olivetto and St. Pantaleone. As soon as General Chabot perceived the object of the fleet's manœuvre, he immediately sent a reinforcement of two hundred men to Vido : but, by the time they landed, upwards of eight hundred guns were ploughing up the island in every direction ; whole trees being carried off, the numberless splinters of which made any defence almost impracticable. This tremendous fire lasted for three hours : at the end of which time, the French batteries being totally destroyed, a body of Russians, about a thousand strong, were landed at the western point of the island, whilst an equal number of Turks disembarked at the north. The garrison, driven from their batteries, retreated to the more elevated point ; but, the Russians having formed a square in the centre of the island, they took refuge within it, to escape the barbarity of the Turks, who gave no quarter. Of their whole number, only fifty

escaped by boats to Corfú: two hundred having been killed; and four hundred, with their General Piveron, taken prisoners.

The enemy were, however, not so successful in their other two points of attack. The Russians had failed in theirs, on Fort Abraham; and, although they had then joined their allies, and succeeded in getting into the ditches of St. Saviour's, and put up scaling ladders, the brave resistance of its small garrison of one hundred and eighty men, and the heavy fire from the town, forced them to retreat, about six o'clock, with severe loss. General Chabot, however, seeing that its garrison would be cut off, were the enemy to renew their attack that night, ordered the parapets and artillery to be rendered useless, and then withdrew it. The following morning, the General sent his aide-de-camp, M. Grouvel, to request from the Russian Admiral an armistice of forty-eight hours: which was granted.

The garrison was now reduced to the most distressing extremity. Having for upwards of four months defended a town, the fortifications of which required a complement of, at least, five thousand men;* it was,

* A French estimate made at the time, makes it 7000 men; viz., 5700 infantry, 800 artillery, 400 sappers, and 100 ordnance workmen.

at length, completely worn out with the incessant watching and toil, which the limited extent of the force entailed upon them. During that interval, although they had suffered under the want of materials of every description, upwards of three hundred guns had been added to the works ; making a total, at the end of the siege, of four hundred and fifty guns. Since the latter end of November, the supply of meat had totally failed : and, the month after, a fowl cost twenty francs, a pigeon twelve ; and all the fish that was obtained was reserved for the use of the sick and wounded. The loss of Vido had deprived them of their supply of fuel. The inhabitants were also driven to a state of desperation, through famine and disease ; and the only part of the community which still remained friendly to the French interest, were the Jews, who, by their willing assistance throughout the siege, endeavoured to express their gratitude for the protection which had been afforded them against the dastardly vexations of the native population.

On the morning of the 3rd of March, a council of war was held : and the deliberations having led to the decision that all further resistance would be unavailing, the French authorities drew up a capitulation in the following terms :

CAPITULATION OF THE TOWN OF CORFÚ.

The citizens Dufour, chef de brigade ; Varèse, maritime agent ; J. Briche, commissary of the executive power ; and Grouvel, aide-de-camp, chef d'escadron : deputed by the Council of War of the town of Corfú, to stipulate, in the name of the French Republic, the articles of capitulation of the town and fortresses of Corfú, with Vice-Admiral Ouschacow and the Kapitán Kádir Bey, commanding the combined Russian and Turkish squadrons ; went on board the Russian flag-ship, where they respectively agreed to the following articles ; *sauf* the ratification of the citizen Dubois, commissary-general of the Government, and of the citizen Chabot, general of division, commanding the islands of the Levant :

ARTICLE I.

The French will deliver up to the Russian and Turkish commissaries the town of Corfú, and their artillery, ammunition, provisions, materials, and all other public effects, such as they actually exist in the arsenals and magazines. The Russian and Turkish commissaries will give receipts for all that is delivered to them by inventory.

ARTICLE II.

The garrison will leave all the forts and posts which it occupies, with all military honours, one day after the present capitulation is signed: it will form line on the Esplanade, where it will give up its arms and standards; with the exception of general officers, the officers on the General's staff, and all other officers, whether civil or military, who will retain their arms; after which, the allied troops will take possession of the several posts. The French will return at once into the citadel, where they will retain their barracks until the time of their embarkation, which will take place from the port of Mandrachio: the commissary-general and the headquarters staff will have a Russian guard of honour, until the time of their embarkation.

ARTICLE III.

The garrison will be conveyed to Toulon, in shipping furnished by the combined fleet, at the expense of the said fleet, and escorted by men-of-war; after having given their word of honour not to take up arms for a space of eighteen months against his Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, the Grand Signor, as well as against their allies the King of England, the King of the Two Sicilies, and the actual allies of the two empires.

ARTICLE IV.

Are comprised in the preceding article, all other Frenchmen employed in the town of Corfú, both civil and military ; as well as the officers, both civil and military ; and the crews of the ship 'Léander,' the corvette 'La Brune,' with those of all other ships belonging to the Republic. It is to be permitted to them, as well as to all other individuals composing the garrison of Corfú, to take away with them all their goods and movables which are their own private property.

ARTICLE V.

All Frenchmen who have been made prisoners during the siege will be equally comprised and admitted to the same advantages of Art. III. and IV. : they will, however, be withheld on their word of honour from again taking up arms, during the war, against the contracting powers ; except in case of exchange with prisoners pertaining to the Russian and Turkish empires.

ARTICLE VI.

There will be allowed a man-of-war, which shall be of not less than twenty guns, to convey the Commissary-General, the general-officers, and the head quarters staff.

ARTICLE VII.

The general of division, Chabot, and his staff, and a secretary chosen by the Commissioner-General, with their families, will be allowed, according to their own pleasure to go either to Toulon, or Ancona, at the expense of the two contracting powers; but, if they should prefer going to Ancona, their passage must take place within a month of the present date.

ARTICLE VIII.

All public property, whether in cognizance of the town, or belonging to the garrison, including the frigate 'Léander,' the corvette 'La Brune,' and all other shipping belonging to the French Republic, will be given up without reserve to the commissioners of the Russian and Turkish powers.

ARTICLE IX.

The commanders of the two allied squadrons proclaim, that all individuals, of whatever religion or nation they may be, as well as all the inhabitants of the town and island of Corfú, shall be respected in their persons and property: that they shall not be persecuted, molested, or sought after; either for the political opinions they may have expressed, or for their actions and the posts which they may have

held under the French Government up to the time of the capitulation. A space of two months will be allowed to such of the inhabitants as desire to betake themselves elsewhere with their property.

ARTICLE X.

Such of the sick, as shall not be able to follow the garrison, will be treated in the same manner as the Russian and Turkish sick; and at the expense of the said powers: and will likewise be sent back to Toulon after their cure. The French General will be allowed to leave at Corfú one officer, with a sum of six thousand francs, as well as the necessary number of medical officers to attend the said sick.

ARTICLE XI.

The garrison, the officers and clerks, both military and civil, either on shore or on board, until their disembarkation at Toulon or at Ancona, will receive the same amount of rations as is allowed them by the French regulations, according to their respective ranks.

ARTICLE XII.

The men-of-war, and the transports, which shall be employed to convey the French, either to Toulon or to Ancona, will not be allowed to make prizes, either

going or returning: and the Commissioner-General pledges himself, in the name of the French Government, to cause the said ships to be respected by the French men-of-war and shipping, and guarantees their safe return to Corf; and, in the same manner, the Russian and Turkish Admirals respectively promise, in the name of their respective Courts, to cause to be conveyed to the agreed destination, all the French comprised in the present capitulation.

Made in treble copy on board the flag-ship, the 'St. Paul,' the 20th February (Russian style), 13th Ventose, 7th year of the French Republic.

(Signed)	VICE-ADMIRAL OUSCHACOW,
	KAPITÁN KÁDIR BEY,
(Citizens)	DUFOUR,
	VARÈSE,
	J. BRICHE,
	GROUVEL.

The above ratification is ratified and accepted, in the name of the French Government, by the undersigned:

The Commissioner-General of the Executive Directory of the French Republic, Dubois: the General of Division, Chabot.

The following day, the forts were formally given over to the allies: the Russians occupying the citadel and Fort Neuf, whilst the outworks were garri-

soned by the Turks. The town of Corfú was given up to Kádir Bey; who placed a garrison in it, and appointed Patrona Bey as Governor. The Albanian auxiliaries, to the number of twelve thousand, were conveyed to the opposite side, much to their disappointment, as they had requested for their reward to be allowed twenty-four hours' pillage of the town. In the latter end of March, the French embarked for Ancona.*

* On the 7th of December, General Delmas had sent a reinforcement of three thousand men in three ex-Venetian men-of-war, but, owing to continued bad weather and their leaky state, they were obliged to put back, having been a month at sea, without being able to make the island. A second expedition, consisting of the 'Généreux' and nine transports, left Ancona twenty-nine days after the capitulation of Corfú; but hearing of the event, they put back.

CHAPTER VI.

ON the capitulation of Corfú, Admiral Ouschacow abolished all the changes which had been made by the French in the administration; and re-established the former Councils of the Signori; admitting, however, into them such of the inhabitants as by fortune or education were supposed qualified to obtain nobility.* But this system of government did not

* As the term "noble" might give an erroneous impression, the following requisitions to obtaining nobility in the Ionian Islands, as settled in 1803, will be perhaps interesting: "To have been born of legitimate marriage, or legitimized, of Christian parents, in one of the seven islands; to possess an annual revenue at Corfú of 1800 ducats, Cephalonia 675, Zante 1350, Santa Maura 540, Cerigo 255, Ithaca 315, Paxo 540; not to exercise any mechanical or other art; not to keep a shop; to have always led a decent life, and to be able to read and write

last long : for, on the 21st of March 1800, the late Venetian islands in the Ionian seas having been formed into a federal Republic, vassal and tributary to the Porte, and to be governed by the principal and notable men of the country ;* the Reis Effendi, chiefly at the instigation of Alí Pashá, who had his own designs in view, favoured the more ancient families of the nobility, by which circumstance they were enabled to recover all their former privileges and hereditary despotism. Extinguished factions were again lighted up : and, although a form of local government was established in each island, with a general government at Corfú, the rivalry of the islands among themselves became a real and active struggle on the score of precedence and sovereignty.† Little more than a year had elapsed since the formation of the Septinsular Republic ; and it had already sunk into the passive existence of a political decrepitude. Each of the seven islands had not only become guilty of treason and rebellion against their general government ; but even, in

in one of the languages used by Government ; never to have been found guilty of infamous crimes or fraudulency." *Le Tre Costituzione delle sette Isole Ionie*, p. 42, Corfú, 1849. *St. Vincent, Isles Ioniennes*, ch. v.

* See Appendix.

† *Vaudoncourt, Isles Ioniennes*, ch. ii.

many instances, against the local government: and the whole of them presented one scene of anarchy, robbery, and murder.* They were sailing like a bark without a pilot, occupying a national position to which they were not accustomed, without experience, social vigour, or good councils. Abandoned to the impulse of every evil passion, disunited among each other by pride and distrust, and jealous of their mutual rights and interests, they each of them exhibited a frightful theatre of civil discord; owing to the struggles of factions, and the ambition of parties contending for pre-eminence, each with its different political opinions; and which at last terminated in the treasonable efforts of base demagogues against their country. Thus, anarchy stalked about like a horrible phantom, spreading desolation and ruin.† Leucadia, Ithaca, and Cephalonia, each adopted a peculiar system of government: and Zante openly resisted a Septinsular detachment which had been sent from Corfú to occupy its fortress. At Corfú itself, a meeting of self-appointed deputies from the inhabitants both of the town and country took

* Letter from the deputation of the Onoranda to the Government, in the *Tre Const. delle Isole Ionie*, p. 27. Corfú, 1849.

† Speech of Count Moncenigo, August 29th, 1803. *Quarterly Review*, No. 57.

place ; which, in October 1801, reformed the Byzantine constitution : and the legislative authority was established under the title of Onoranda.* It was, however, only a continued struggle between the upper and middle classes, whilst a band of organized assassins carried their attacks to the very gates of the town.

In the midst of this state of things, the more orderly part of the population turned their attention towards Russia, as affording the only prospect of retrieving the actual state of affairs. Since the latter years of the eighteenth century, when many of the inhabitants of the Ionian Isles had been obliged to take refuge in that country from the tyranny of the Venetian Governors, Russian influence had gradually increased in the islands ; not only on account of the religious affinity which subsisted ; but, also, from the encouragement given to such Ionians as distinguished themselves in science and art : and, although but few obtained the favour of these distinctions, great numbers exerted themselves to merit them.† A deputation was, therefore, sent by the

* St. Vincent, Isles Ioniennes, ch. v. Parl. Papers, June 22nd, 1840, Annex. A. *Le Tre Costituzione delle sette Isole Ionie.* Corfú, 1849, p. 21.

† Daru, *Hist. de Venise*, ch. xv, xxxv. De Bosset's *Parga*.

Senate to St. Petersburg, to request a new constitution from the Emperor Alexander; and, further, to pray that it might be supported by an imposing armed force, in order to defeat the obstinate, artful, and violent expedients that would be put in motion to subvert it.* In accordance with these wishes, the Emperor dispatched Count Mocenigo, a Zantiot nobleman who had risen high in the Russian service, as plenipotentiary, with full powers to organize a new form of government.

Shortly after his arrival, he proclaimed, by a manifesto of September, 1802, a few provisional regulations; and authorized each island to name, and send to Corfú, deputies, whose duty it should be to arrange amongst themselves the fundamental basis of the new constitution. The several islands obeyed the injunction; and their deputies, to the number of forty, assembled at Corfú: where they chose from amongst themselves nine members, who were to prepare the subjects which should be brought forward for the discussion and sanction of the assembly. So great was Mocenigo's influence, that a constitution, proposed at St. Petersburg, and which, though partaking of party spirit, was of as liberal

* Directions of the Senate to their envoy Naranzi. Quarterly Review, No. 57.

a turn as could be expected from a Russian Government, was discussed and accepted in one day, the 23rd of November.*

Although this newly-adopted code was full of defects, the election of magistrates and judges being still in the hands of the nobles, yet it produced order, and restored tranquillity : and its purpose would have been completely effected, had the Russian Minister Plenipotentiary been more prudent, and the civil and military administration less extravagant. For the public voice accused him of having amassed a private fortune through practising all the evil conduct of the Venetian Proveditore ; whilst the military expense was out of all proportion, even had the strictest economy been observed.† No sooner, however, had the Corfiots begun to emerge from the state of alarm and disorder which the contentions of the Septinsular Government had occasioned, than they were to be tried again by a fresh change of masters.

Napoleon, in the midst of the important events which divided Europe, had not forgotten the advantage which the possession of the Ionian Islands would give to the French ; an object which had

* Vaudoncourt, Isles Ioniennes, ch. ii. St. Vincent, Isles Ioniennes, ch. v.

† Vaudoncourt, ch. ii.

become of greater importance since the occupation of Malta by the English: he therefore obtained the cession of them to France in full sovereignty, by the secret articles of the Treaty of Tilsit. So great was his anxiety to see Corfú occupied, that, on the 8th of July, the following letter was dispatched to the King of Naples: "I am desired by the Emperor to have the honour of forwarding to your Majesty the notification which announces the signature of the peace between the Emperor and King Napoleon, and the Emperor Alexander. By one of the articles, *Corfú* is to be given up to France. His Majesty has named as Governor of that island and its dependencies, General César Berthier.* The wish of the Emperor is, that a French regiment, an Italian regiment of the kingdom of Italy, two companies of French artillery, two companies of Italian artillery, and two companies of sappers, forming together a force of at least four thousand men, commanded by a General of brigade, shall be at once cantoned at Otranto and at Tarento, so as to be ready to be conveyed to Corfú as soon as the orders of the Emperor of Russia shall arrive. Until then, General César Berthier will continue to fill the appointment which you have confided to him.

"It is of importance, Sire, that the occupation

* Brother to the Prince of Neufchatel and of Wagram.

of Corfú should be kept in the greatest secrecy, as well as that of Cattaro, which is likewise to be given up to the French power.”*

The inhabitants of Corfú were by no means pleased with this change of masters; for, not only had they to support a far larger military force, but the vanity and the vexations of General Berthier were unbounded.† Although Napoleon had, with his usual sagacity, perceived the weak point of the islanders, so that, to please the countrypeople, the Greek religion was declared to be that of the State; and, to propitiate the Signori, no improvements were made in the courts of justice, and the Senate was nominally recognized;‡ yet the people could not help remembering the contrast between the fraternising citizen of the French Republic, and the arbitrary acts of the Count of the Empire. He was, however, soon transferred to another command; and his successor, General Donzelot, was happily chosen, being a man of talent and integrity. He had seen much service: having served in Germany under General Moreau, who had promoted him to the rank of General of Brigade. In 1804 and 1805, he was at the head of Marshal Augereau's

* *Précis des Evénemens Militaires*, 1806-7, t. v, par M. Dumas.

† Vaudoncourt, *Isles Ioniennes*, ch. ii.

‡ See Appendix.

staff: and, having, the following year, distinguished himself in the campaign against Prussia and Russia, he had obtained the rank of General of Division. Accustomed to the strict discipline of the field, he caused the police to be administered with severity; and property, freed from the extortion of Venetian proconsuls, was respected: the youth of the island were encouraged to frequent the colleges of France and Italy; and, the government being placed in rational hands, the people no longer required interpreters.* This conciliating policy, in course of time, reaped its own reward: and, when the lower islands, one after another, received the British troops with open arms; the Corfiots, satisfied with their Governor, remained tranquil, amidst the scenes of warfare which surrounded them.

In the year 1809, Vice-Admiral Lord Collingwood, having been apprised that the inhabitants of Cephalonia and Zante were desirous of throwing over the French and restoring the Septinsular Government, ordered Captain Spranger, of H.M.S. 'Warrior,' to take with him the 'Spartan' frigate and 'Espoir' sloop, to reduce these islands. It was not however intended to make any conquest, but merely to liberate them from the French yoke: the

* Vaudoncourt, Isles Ioniennes ch. ii. Biographie des Contemporains.

Septinsular flag was to be hoisted ; and, on landing, Captain Spranger was directed to issue a proclamation, setting forth that the intention of the expedition was to expel the French, liberate the people, and reinstate the former Government. At the same time, he was to give them to understand that, once the enemy was expelled, they were to garrison their own islands ; but that, from consideration of the important assistance they had derived from the British forces, the Ministers, who were to be appointed for the administration of the Government, should be recognized and approved of by the British Commanders.*

In obedience with these orders, Captain Spranger sailed from Messina on the 23rd September, with H. M. S. 'Philomel,' two large gun-boats, and the transports with troops under Brigadier-General Oswald. He arrived off Cephalonia on the 28th, and continued in sight till the 1st October ; when, being joined by the 'Spartan' from Malta, 'Magnificent,' 'Belle-Poule,' and 'Kingfisher,' from Corfú, he anchored that night in the bay of Zante, just without reach of the nearest battery. At daylight the next morning, the troops assembled alongside the 'Warrior,' and, under cover of the

* Instructions from Vice-Admiral Collingwood to Captain Spranger.

‘Spartan,’ ‘Belle-Poule,’ and gun-boats, which soon silenced the battery, a division of the army landed three miles from the town; and, a second division having been landed, the castle was invested. The same day the enemy capitulated. A Provisional Government was at once established, the troops re-embarked; and the squadron, augmented by the ‘Leonidas,’ sailed for Cephalonia. The men-of-war, on entering the port, formed into two columns with transports in rear. Fort. St. George surrendered the same day without resistance.* Following up his success, the ‘Philomel’ sloop was directed to reduce Ithaca, and the ‘Spartan,’ Cerigo. The former of these, having on board Mr. Foresti, H.B.M. Minister to the Septinsular Republic, entered the harbour of Ithaca on the 8th; when the battery, which only consisted of two guns and seventy men, was surrendered at once by its Commandant.

On the 9th, Captain Jahleel Brenton, in the ‘Spartan,’ reduced Cerigo, after very a slight resistance: it had long been a nest of privateers of the very worst description, directed against the trade of all nations, and of singular annoyance to the British.

* Parl. Papers relating to the operations in the Adriatic in 1809.

At the conclusion of these hostilities, Brigadier-General Oswald established his head-quarters at Zante, and at each island a British officer was appointed to act as Chief of the Government: and although, nominally, a council of presidency consisting of four members, and an administrative body of forty members, were formed to carry on the civil matters of each island; yet, in reality, the British Commander was omnipotent.* That the people were satisfied with their rule appears evident, from the fact that the Count de Foscardi was deputed, in the name of the Ionian people, to request that Major-General Sir James Campbell, who had succeeded Brigadier-General Oswald, should be appointed Civil Commissioner to the Septinsular Circle.

Corfú was no longer the dilapidated fortress which General Chabot had vainly endeavoured to defend. Well supplied with ammunition; its guns mounted; Vido, denuded of its olive-trees, and strengthened by field-works; it was considered too strong to be attacked: and General Donzelot, from behind his citadel, laughed at the imaginary blockade which the British Government supposed would be effected by two frigates. Alí Pashá had, since the year

* Martin's British Colonies, vol. i, p. 383.

† Proclamation by Sir James Campbell, April 30th, 1813.

1799, learned to respect the power of the French : and, though he asked a high price for his provisions, he dared not refuse them ; and the French Governor had caused telegraphs to be established all along the coast of the island, so that, as soon as the two English frigates were out of sight, boats immediately ran over to the coast of Albania, and plentiful supplies were brought back [1813].* This state of affairs lasted till the middle of February, 1814 ; when a detachment of troops, under Colonel Church, assisted by the ' Apollo ' frigate, took possession of Paxo, as a preliminary to an attack on Corfu [1814]. From the small force which the British possessed in the Ionian Islands, this demonstration was most probably a feint, designed to impose on General Donzelot ; who was, however, not to be intimidated. But the abdication of Napoleon at Fontainebleau superseded all the gallant veteran's preparations for a defence : and the island of Corfú was, upon the official orders of Louis XVIII., surrendered† to

* Napier's Ionian Islands. Tour in the Levant, by W. Turner.

† " In order to obviate idle inventions and false reports that might be circulated by evil-disposed persons, with the view of disturbing the public mind, and more particularly to explain with candour, to all the inhabitants of Corfú, the full extent of my powers, I publicly announce and make known, by these presents, that I am invested with full

General Sir James Campbell, who commanded the British forces in the Ionian Sea, by the French Commissioner General Baron de Boulnois [May, 1814].

At the Congress of Vienna, which followed the temporary cessation of hostilities in Europe, the whole of the islands would most probably have been given over to Great Britain; had not the Court of Russia been there represented by a Corfiot, Count John Capodistrias, who stood high in favour with the Emperor Alexander. A younger son, of good family, but small expectations, he had been sent, shortly previous to the fall of Venice, to study medicine at the College of Padua; whence he returned, on the expulsion of the French, and was appointed to the Secretariate of State of the Septinsular Republic, by Count Mocenigo: which office he continued to fill, till the islands were given up by Russia. Invited, shortly after, to St. Petersburg, by Count Roumiantsov; he obtained an attaché-ship to the Russian embassy at Vienna, in 1811: where his abilities recommended him, the following year, as a fit person to assist Admiral Tchitchacow, then in command of the army of the Danube, in endeavouring to induce the Porte to ally itself with

powers to regulate, amend, and alter, inasmuch as the public good may require it, any branch or department of the island."—*Proclam. by Sir J. Campbell, June 24th, 1814.*

Russia; and the Admiral gave him the direction of the political correspondence with Vienna and Constantinople. In the meantime, Napoleon invaded Russia: Tchitchacow was replaced by Barclay de Tolly; with whom Capodistrias remained, and shared the fatigues of the campaign of 1813, being present at the battles of Lützen, Bautzen, and Leipsic. When, after the last-named action, it was considered necessary to detach Switzerland from the French interest, the Emperor Alexander chose Capodistrias, with whom the Austrian Government joined the Chevalier Lebzeltern: but the high tone assumed, soon after, by the Allies, rendered his mission useless; and he returned to the Russian head-quarters. Alexander, however, re-appointed him as envoy to the Swiss Confederacy; a post which Capodistrias, from the experience he had acquired, in early life, in the petty strifes and divisions of the Septinsular Republic, filled with so much success, that he was appointed Russian representative at the Congress of Vienna, October, 1814; and succeeded in having the independence of the Ionian Islands recognized; a peaceful triumph of patriotism which has fallen to the lot of few men.* Although the negotiations

* *Correspondance de Jean, Comte Capodistrias, éditée par son frère.* He afterwards became one of the Russian Secretaries of State; but, having been offered the Presidency

were adjourned, owing to the events of the Hundred Days, and notwithstanding that Great Britain had then acquired a greater claim to indemnification ; the clause of independence was considered as forming part of the general treaty carried out at Vienna, and was signed at Paris, on the 5th of November, 1815. By this treaty, the seven islands formed a “single,” “free,” and “independent” State ; which, under the protection of the Sovereign of Great Britain, was to be governed by a Lord High Commissioner, from whom it was to receive a constitution.* In the meanwhile, it was incorporated under the Governor of Malta.

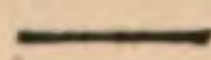
of the new Republic of Greece, he unfortunately accepted it ; and was murdered there, October 9th, 1831.

* See Appendix.

THE
PART IV

THE
PROTECTION

PART IV.



THE IONIAN ISLANDS UNDER BRITISH
PROTECTION.

CHAPTER IV

The first British representative, Sir Thomas
 Maitland, was a man every way suited to the times,
 as well as to the position which he held. He had
 to do, I suppose, what was expected of him,
 by executive measures of course, he was armed
 with almost the full powers of a governor. He
 political situation was such that the islands were divided
 On his arrival he was aware of the weakness of the
 people for a Constitutional Government, which in
 every state must be the result of time, accustom-
 and by natural propensity, but as a revolution
 had to be given to the people, which placing as
 little power as possible in the hands of the people,
 the Assembly, a body elected what he considered
 should be his primary object was to improve
 administration of the civil and criminal code, and

CHAPTER I.

THE first British representative, Sir Thomas Maitland, was a man every way suited to the times, as well as to the position which he was called upon to fill. Possessing great shrewdness, accompanied by excessive roughness of manner, he ever viewed with distrust the insidious advances of any of the political factions into which the islands were divided. On his arrival, he saw clearly the unfitness of the people for a Constitutional Government ; which, in every state, must be the effect of time, accompanied by internal tranquillity : but, as a constitution had to be given, he drew one up ; which, placing as little power as possible in the hands of the Legislative Assembly, materially effected what he considered should be his primary object ; viz., an improved administration of the civil and criminal code, and

an ameliorated condition of the peasantry.* This constitution was ratified by his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, on the 26th of August, 1817.†

Although it gave the whole control of the government to the Lords High Commissioners, the deplorable state of the islands, when taken possession of by the British forces, would not have justified at the time any more liberal kind of government.‡ The Venetian statute, which regulated the courts of justice, was monstrous in its principles, monstrous in its barbarity, monstrous in its folly: a code by which the crimes of petty offenders were made punishable with execrable torture, while the worst violences of the powerful were not only unchecked, but encouraged and invited into action; a code which, after denouncing the most unequal and unjust punishments against the offences it defined, left all that was undefined to the caprice and the passions of judges.§ The immunity, therefore, enjoyed by the wealthy proprietors, enabled them not only to take every advantage of the distresses of their tenantry, but even to create them; and, forcing them to borrow money from their sordid and avaricious masters at an exorbitant interest, soon reduced them

* Speech of Sir Thomas Maitland, 3rd February, 1817.

† Appendix.

‡ Turner's Tour in the Levant. Napier's Ionian Islands.

§ Parting speech of Lord Nugent to the Senate.

to a condition of slavery. The incorruptible uprightness of Sir Thomas Maitland's character, and the steadiness with which he carried out his reforms, soon made him many enemies ; and their animosity was fostered on the one hand by Alí Pashá, and on the other by Capodistrias. The feeling of irritation against his government was, however, raised to the highest pitch by the cession of Parga. The Greeks could not understand that he was merely carrying out the orders of the home Government, and still less would they believe that the British people could sacrifice the last free Greek community to the Turkish yoke. But the fact was that, in that mighty game of politics which had recently been played in Europe, the existence of such a village had been overlooked ; and, when the Turkish Government demanded the cession of Parga, in fulfilment of the treaty of 1815, no one in Great Britain was aware that it was anything else but a barren rock or desert island.* Yet, why should they have been blamed, when, at the treaty of Paris, an Ionian had represented Russia ? why should he not have stipulated for the freedom of a community with which he had been familiar from his childhood ? For four hundred years, it had enjoyed, under Venetian protection, a municipality of its own ; and, when the

* Lord Castlereagh described it as an island.

Russians, in 1800, surrendered the Venetian dependencies on the main land to Turkey, the prayer of the Parguinotes, and their threats to bury themselves in its ruins, had induced them to spare their city. In 1807, Alí Pashá, taking advantage of the professed alliance of the French, demanded the town in a formal manner from the Governor-General of the Ionian Islands; pretending that the Russians had, by withholding it, broken through the treaty, and that France was bound to execute the engagements entered into by Russia. A deputation of the principal Parguinotes, however, prevailed; and, on the report of the Governor-General, the French Government refused to comply. Situated on a rock projecting into the Ionian Sea, and surrounded on the land side by almost inaccessible mountains, Parga, from the connection which its inhabitants kept up with the Paramithians, Súliots, and other independent tribes of the Cassiopean mountains, had become a harbour of refuge for the enemies of Alí: it was not to be supposed that the wily old chief would lose sight of the coveted point. As soon, therefore, as he had heard of Napoleon's reverses in 1814, he marched an army to the confines of the Parga territory, which extended about six miles in length and two in breadth; and took possession of Aja, one of its villages. The Parguinotes, apprehensive that it was the intention of the French to

deliver over the town to Alí, sent a deputation to Paxo, then occupied by the British forces, offering to surrender the town into their hands, *as it was their determination to follow the fate of the Ionian Islands.*

This proposition, having been put into writing, was accepted by the Commander of the Forces, Sir James Campbell: and, on the 22nd of March, the British took formal possession of the place; and they were so far considered incorporated with the Ionian Islands as to be afterwards taxed by the Ionian Senate. It was, therefore, with no small degree of apprehension that the Parguinotes discovered, in 1817, that it was in contemplation with the British Government to deliver them up to their old enemy Alí; for though, in England, the subject was discussed as being a fulfilment of the treaty of 1815 with the Porte, yet the Greeks knew but too well how little the Porte dared to interfere in any part of Albania. At this crisis, Sir Thomas Maitland did the only thing which he could do; which was, to pledge himself that the place should not be yielded up, till the property of those who might choose to emigrate should be paid for, and they themselves transplanted to the Ionian Islands: but Sir Thomas had to deal with one of the most crafty usurers in Europe. The population, to the number of about two thousand seven hundred,

agreed to emigrate in a mass ; and, accordingly, two commissioners, one for Alí, and one for Sir Thomas, were appointed to survey and value the property : but, being unable to come to any agreement, they were dismissed, and Alí obtained a suspension of all proceedings till May, 1818. New commissioners were again appointed, and again did Alí put every obstacle in their way ; until, at last, in June, 1819, Sir Thomas Maitland finally decided that the Parguinotes should receive the sum of £142,425, as compensation. It was here the Lord High Commissioner failed. He had pledged his word that the inhabitants should receive the full amount of their property ; and, therefore, when the town was to be given up to Alí, he should have demanded the amount it was valued at, or the agreement became null. It was not to be expected that the inhabitants would keep houses in repair which they were not to inhabit, or till fields which they were not to reap ; and, consequently, by delaying the compensation, and causing a consequent depreciation of property, Alí had to pay but one half of the original valuation : and to this loss, was to be added that occasioned by the listlessness of the two past years.*

* It is excessively difficult to get at a fair and impartial view of the history of the cession of Parga, owing to its

That the people did not very much feel their emigration from an arid and ever-turbulent country, would be anticipated by every one acquainted with the Greek character; but they did feel, what Greeks will ever feel, that is, the loss of their money. To the Ionian Islands, however, and Corfú in particular, the accession of the Parguinotes became excessively beneficial; and they now form one of the most industrious portions of the community.

No sooner had the Ionian Government satiated the rapacity of Alí, by enabling him to take possession of the much-coveted Parga, than it found itself unexpectedly assailed by turmoils at home. In the beginning of the year, Capodistrias visited Corfú with the pious intention of once more seeing his aged father;* but the factious Signori could only distinguish in the event the arrival of the Russian Minister. The peasantry, guided by their

having been made in England a party question; and, consequently, both parties publishing their own version, each of which lay equally remote from the truth. The sources from which I have derived it are "De Bosset's Parga;" "Quarterly Review," No. 45; "Edinburgh Review," No. 63; "Estimate of Property abandoned by Parguinotes," in answer to "Quarterly Review;" and Parliamentary Debates for 1819.

* Correspondance de Jean, Comte Capodistrias, éditée par son frère.

priests, eagerly swallowed the rumours which we spread respecting the intentions of the Emperor of Russia; who, it was said, intended to repossess himself of the islands: and, in a very short space of time, a strong Russian party was formed. Capodistrias, pestered by his relations and friends to obtain for them advantageous posts in the Government, naturally used his best endeavours to do so; and even presented to the English Government, in his own name, a memorial against Sir Thomas Maitland, written by his brother Viaro: but the firmness of Sir Thomas having rendered his efforts unavailing, his friends construed this refusal into a jealousy of Russian influence, and their animosity soon took a more serious turn.

The island of Santa Maura, being connected with the opposite continent by a long strip of sand, presented, on that side, an impassable barrier to the mariners of the western coast of Greece; who, when proceeding northwards, were under the necessity of sailing round the island: and, as the coast of Santa Maura to the westward consists of a bold and forbidding rock, without harbour or cove to put a vessel into in case of distress; this, in bad weather, and to a people who are not accustomed to brave the rough humours of the briny deep, was felt to be a most unpleasant task. The consequence was, that the country boats either waited patiently at Ithaca, or

ran up the inner channel of Santa Maura, until the fretful sea had recovered its wonted placidity to such a degree as would allow them to proceed on their voyage with tolerable comfort and security. To improve the navigation, the Santa Mauriots solicited the Government to erect a mole, and to excavate a small canal which would open a communication between the lagoon and the sea ; and, in order to defray the expenses, offered to submit to a local taxation for that purpose. The peasantry, who are a peculiarly fine and independent race, were, it is possible, unconscious of the meaning of taxation ; and they are completely under the moral control of their priests and Signori. The opponents of the Government at once stirred them with the idea that a very great injustice was being done them. The money was to be raised by an additional tax on wine and oil, which had ever been customary in the other islands. The land at Santa Maura is not, however, held by a few large landed proprietors, but is divided into innumerable small freeholds ; every peasant having his own piece of ground, which he tills himself, and on the profits of which he lives. These taxes were, therefore, felt by each individual, and caused a certain feeling of irritation ; which was greatly increased by emissaries insinuating that these taxes were only precursors of others, that a tax on doors or windows was intended ; one on marriages, births, and deaths ; one even on the new-married couples

after the first celebration of their marriage rites.* So artfully were these seeds of discord sown, that the Senator of the island, M. Zambelli, although residing there at the time, was unaware of it. Without any previous remonstrances, the people resisted the levying of taxes, with arms; and the British Resident was forced to apply to Corfú for assistance. On the 3rd of October, 1819, the peasantry rushed into the town, fired on the British garrison, and set fire to a store. During this time, a detachment of troops arrived from Corfú; landed, and drove the people out of the town. The following day, with great forbearance, the Resident, Sir Frederic Stoven, once more tried to conciliate them; but in vain: and was obliged to attack them in the village of Sfachiotis, whence he soon drove them and dispersed them. Most of the ringleaders escaped to the Continent.

Accustomed to broils for years, it was difficult to make them understand that they had committed a serious violation of the laws; and the execution of a few ringleaders, amongst whom was a priest,† although it successfully awed them, at the same

* Miscellaneous Parl. Papers, 1821, vol. xxiii.

† There is a priest now at Santa Maura, who was pointed out to me as the real individual who ought to have been hanged, but who preferred to allow another to discharge the extreme penalty of the law in his place. He is a particularly zealous opponent of the Government.

time aroused their sympathies in favour of men whom they viewed in the light of martyrs. These riots were, consequently, soon followed by a conspiracy of a much deeper nature at Zante; although, happily, it had no disastrous results. The passing of an act for the sequestration of church property, was seized upon by a Zantiot, named Martenengo, a man of much power in the island, to stir the people into insurrection. The Protopapa, who had exerted himself to remove the false impression existing against the Government, was to be assassinated; and the island fired from one end to the other. Having successfully fomented a popular commotion vexatious to the Government, this factious demagogue wrote to the Lord High Commissioner, January 7th, 1821; offering that, if he were made a Senator, he would use all his power and influence to restore tranquillity. His offer being rejected with the contempt it merited, his next endeavour was to ripen his insurrection into reality; but succeeded no further than to cause a few persons to pelt a priest with stones, who was sent to announce the arrival of the Protopapa. Martenengo was arrested, during the night, and put on his trial for high treason: he refused to plead; and was condemned to twelve years imprisonment in a fortress. The sentence was, however, mitigated into that of three years' banishment from the islands. This trial took place on the

12th of February, 1821 ; and the 4th of April following witnessed the breaking out of the Greek Revolution, which afforded a new and ample topic for the murmurings of the discontented.

The Ionian Government had a most difficult task to perform. On the one hand, their private feelings caused them to sympathize with a people who were risking their all to preserve the freedom which they were enjoying ; on the other hand, as a friendly and independent State, they were bound to recognize the right of the Porte to put down a rebellion in its own territories. On the 7th of June, therefore, a proclamation of the strictest neutrality was published ; but notwithstanding this, the youth of the islands, and especially of Cephalonia, took up the cause with enthusiasm. This was to be expected ; but, unfortunately, they forgot their position ; and, instead of joining the Greeks simply as Philhellenes, the Cephalonian leaders, at the head of whom were two of the house of Metaxa, gave out that they had been sent by the British Government, and adopted the English uniform. Deriving encouragement from the idea that their acts passed unnoticed, they brought themselves most unnecessarily into view by a summons, which they sent to the Lalliotés, against whom they were engaged, worded as follows :

“ From us, *Chiefs of the Cephalonians and*

Zantiotes, to you, the noble Agas, and remaining Chiefs of the *Lalliotés*.

“According to the orders of the Grand General of the Greeks, Alexander Ypsilanti, who has conquered the whole of Walachia, Moldavia, and Constantinople, and the other parts of the Levant, we present ourselves here in the Morea, charged to offer you peace by treaty, such as the laws of Europe prescribe ; and we are even accompanied by one of his relatives. If you oppose this treaty, we are ready to give every succour and protection to your enemies the *Moraites*; so that they may destroy you with fire and sword: and for such purpose we are here, a thousand in number; with all the necessaries of war, and six cannon, &c.

“From our Head-Quarters, June 1st, 1824.”

(Signed) MICHEL IPSILANTI, Constantinopolitan.

C. METAXA. VANGELI PANA.

J. FOCCA. DIONYSIO SEMBRICO.

ANDREA METAXA. PANAGIOTTI STRUSA.

MATEA CONTUFA, Interpreter and Secretary.

This document was forwarded by the *Lalliotés* to Yúsuf Pasha, at the Castles of the Morea, and he sent it on at once to Corfú. The Government was now obliged to take a decisive step in the matter: it therefore published a proclamation, ordering

the whole of the Ionians engaged in the Greek cause to return forthwith to their country; and summoned the chiefs to return within a fortnight to be tried for the offence, on pain of perpetual banishment and confiscation of property. The order not being complied with, the sentence was carried into effect against them all; and, at the same time, two Captains of Cephalonian ships, who had joined the cause with British colours, were declared pirates.

The Ionians, generally, were much incensed at these acts of the Government; but, unfortunately for themselves, the natural lawlessness of the people broke out in such unwarrantable acts of cruelty, that the public opinion was soon turned against them. About the end of August, Napoli di Malvasia capitulated to Prince Cantacuzeno; and its inhabitants stipulated that they should be conveyed to the nearest Turkish port. As there were then no means of doing so, permission was obtained to allow them to reside at Cerigo, until they could be sent on to Crete. Some had already arrived there; and, on a Saturday afternoon, a boat, containing forty-one others, of whom but seven were men, reached the island; and immediately despatched a messenger to the Governor, requesting leave to land.

The inhabitants were then diverting themselves

at a *festa*, and, seeing the Turkish messenger, detained him to hear his history. In that short time, a plot was laid to murder the whole party. The messenger was detained altogether, and a fictitious order sent down to disembark the prisoners. It was now growing dark, and the Turks, suspecting treachery, were with great difficulty prevailed upon to land; but the moment for attack had not yet arrived. Leading their victims among some rocks, they fired upon the unfortunate men; for, adding cowardice to barbarity, they were afraid of the consequences of coming to close quarters with even seven unarmed men driven to desperation. The women were then ravished without exception, murdered, and thrown into the sea. It is in vain to suppose that any palliation can be offered for such cold-blooded villany, or that any of the inhabitants of Cerigo can excuse themselves from a participation in the foul deed: for, so prevalent was the general feeling, that, for three days, the massacre remained concealed from the knowledge of the Resident; and it was then only accidentally discovered by the conversation of some women. A party of the garrison was sent down to the spot, where the ground was found already ploughed up; and patches of hair, stained of divers colours, as is customary with the Turkish women, lay strewn about from the scene of massacre as far as the

beach. If there had been an opposition made to the discovery of the guilt, there was still more so to that of the guilty, and five only were executed; one of whom was proved to have ravished a very young girl and stabbed her immediately afterwards.

Not to be behindhand, the peasantry of Zante, about the same time, on a Turkish brig-of-war being driven on shore by the insurgent fleet, assembled in great numbers with hostile purposes. An officer's party was at once sent to conduct the Turks to the Lazaretto, and enforce the quarantine laws; but it found itself opposed by the peasantry. The officer ordered his men to fire over the people's heads, in order to intimidate them; but he was immediately answered by a discharge, wounding the officer himself, and killing one of his men: he had no alternative but to retire; leaving the body of the soldier to the Greeks, who, as soon as they obtained possession of it, mangled it in every way, and transfixed the head to the ground with his own bayonet. Zante was, at once, placed under martial law; the ringleaders were executed; and Sir Frederick Adam, who was then acting for the Lord High Commissioner, with great judgment seized the occasion to order the disarming of the entire peasantry of the islands: and, though this was carried into effect when they were in the highest degree disaffected, it was done with

so much temperance, that no resistance was offered. It is from this measure that dates the decided improvement of the peasantry ; for, when every man went to their festivals armed with gun and dagger, it was but natural to suppose they would be used in every broil, and the consequences were murders of daily occurrence, from which arose long-standing family feuds.*

The neutrality, although occasionally violated by the belligerents, was strictly observed by the Ionian Government, until the blockade at Patras, in 1824 ; when the national character which it presented, from the number of armed vessels, justified the islands in issuing a proclamation, dated November 17th, enjoining that the blockade should be respected by all vessels under the Ionian flag. This deviation from the rule which had been laid down, had, however, only the effect of rendering the Provisional Greek Government more arrogant ; and, in the month of June following, becoming alarmed at the serious aspect of their own affairs, and indignant at seeing a number of European flags among the transports of the Turkish fleets, they issued, from the Mills of Nauplia, an edict, dated 8th of June, ordering their cruisers to burn and sink, with their ships' com-

* Visit to Greece, by G. Waddington. Goodisson, Ionian Islands.

panies, all the European vessels which they should find so employed. This edict was too piratical to pass unnoticed; and the British Admiral at once remonstrated against it, but his representations received no attention. It was, therefore, thought necessary to adopt stronger measures; and, accordingly, on the 6th of September, a proclamation was issued from Corfú, notifying that, in consequence of the refusal of the Provisional Greek Government to re-consider their edict, the English Admiral had been directed by the British Government to seize and detain all Greek armed vessels. This had the desired effect; and a fresh edict from Nauplia decreed that all Greek privateers should furnish themselves with commissions from their Government, and that all ships under European flags, not carrying troops, had the privileges of neutrality.*

Disturbed as the public mind was by these constant broils, Sir Thomas never for a moment lost sight of those internal improvements which he had determined to carry out on his first arrival. He had then found a peasantry ground down by the usurious loans of their landlords, judges openly bribed, and a treasury containing but three obolis.† Soon after the assembling of the first Legislative Assembly, the

* Leake's Greek Revolution. Quar. Rev. No. 58.

† Turner's Tour in the Levant. Napier's Ionian Islands.

mortgages were converted into simple contract debts, and the system of advances from landlord to tenant was discontinued ; by these measures, the peasantry were released from the bondage in which they were held by their *signori*, a great blow was struck at the wholesale system of perjury which was at the disposal of the landlords, while the higher classes had no longer the command of courts of justice. To free the courts of law from any indirect influence, he kept the executive, the legislative, and judicial authorities, distinct from one another ; and, to correct party decisions, he established at Corfú a Supreme Court of Justice, consisting of two British and two Ionian judges ; to whom an appeal might lie from the several local jurisdictions. *

The necessity of defraying the whole of the military expenses, incurred in the islands, with a revenue barely equal even to the payment of the troops,† the number of which was limited by the Treaty of Paris, rendered it the first care of Sir Thomas to obtain permission from the British Government, that the islands should, for the time being, be liable only to the expenses of lodging the troops. Having obtained this, he took especial care that no money should be

* See Constitution, Appendix. Quart. Rev. No 57.

† Goodisson's Ionian Greeks. The actual expenditure of the British forces in the Ionian Islands, in 1821, was £105,000 ; the revenue was £110,000.

laid out on the fortifications, and sought how to increase the revenue without burdening the people. The value of the olive oil had increased so much since the Venetian monopoly had been done away with, that, in 1817, he found that an extra duty of about half-a-dollar per barrel, upon the exportation of oil, would be easily borne by the merchants; while, at the same time, it enabled him to do away with eleven vexatious taxes.* The monopoly of corn was then taken into the hands of Government: but, if a few individual corn dealers suffered, the people gained; for the effect was an immediate reduction of twenty per cent. in the price of bread. The measure, however, which excited the strongest sensation, was the wresting of the Church revenues from the hands of the administrators. Under the Venetians, the Church estates had been bought up or farmed by private individuals, who were making large fortunes by the transaction, without fulfilling the conditions of their contract. Sir Thomas determined to take them out of their hands; although the transaction was at once denounced as sacrilegious: for the administrators endeavoured to misrepresent the matter among the peasantry, and

* For about fifteen years previous to 1802, the oil averaged only 7s. 4d. to 8s. 3d. a jar, but in 1802, it rose to about 11s. a jar. In 1834, it rose as high as 15s. a jar.

it was insinuated that the Government not only intended to appropriate the Church revenues, but also to overturn the established religion.

The consequence of these wise measures was, that he was enabled to give handsomer salaries to all Government *employés*, thereby doing away with the temptations for bribery which had grown there into a system; that roads were cut throughout the islands, the town of Corfú was beautified, a mole and aqueduct were carried on at Zante, the churches repaired, the public credit was restored; and yet, on the 31st of January, 1823, there was a surplus revenue of 117,357 Spanish dollars, making, with those of former years, a total surplus in the treasury of 600,000 dollars.

On the 17th of January, 1824, Sir Thomas Maitland expired of an apoplectic stroke, at Malta. Few men have had more enemies, or more scurrilous abuse; but if, in the country and villages, an increase of cultivation, comfort, and population, is perceived; if there is a great diminution of crime; if the people are rapidly progressing in wealth, morality, and civilization; we may be at least assured that these are not the consequences of misgovernment.*

* Visit to Greece, by G. Waddington.

CHAPTER II.

ON the death of Sir Thomas Maitland, the Ionian Islands were separated from the governorship of Malta; and Major-General Sir Frederick Adam, who had long served at Corfú under the late Lord High Commissioner, was appointed to succeed him. Unfortunately, when called upon to undertake the government, he allowed himself to be influenced by such of the native gentry, as had made his acquaintance when filling a subordinate office, and was led to consume his time in petty pompous ceremonies. The consequence of this mistaken course soon became apparent: the improvement of the peasantry was lost sight of, and the laws were not enforced in all their vigour against the upper classes. Enormous sums also were expended upon beautifying the Island of Corfú, to the prejudice of

the others, which excited much dissatisfaction amongst them: whilst a disproportionate part of the revenue was apportioned to defray the expenses of putting the fortifications of Corfú into complete repair; for which purpose, in 1828, it was agreed to contribute £20,000 yearly, and to maintain a company of sappers for this object; besides paying the lodging of the troops. Sir Frederick, however, conferred the greatest benefit, on the town of Corfú, which it had ever enjoyed, by ensuring to it a plentiful supply of fresh water. Previously to this improvement, it had to be brought a distance of three miles from the stream of Potamo, a fact which, in a southern climate, speaks volumes for the want of energy or cleanliness in the people.*

He was succeeded by Lord Nugent, a nobleman who had acquired much experience in the House of Commons. His chief attention was directed to the degraded state into which the courts of justice had been allowed to fall; with this view, it was enacted that, after a space of two years, no man should be tried for his life in the Italian language; and no judge was allowed to preside at a court in his native island. Finding that the pension fund was lying useless in the treasury, his Lordship caused

* Napier's Ionian Islands. Report on Ordnance Expenditure, 1850.

it to be lent to the needy farmers, at six per cent. ; by which means they were freed from the usurious loans of their landlords, who not only advanced money at fifteen or twenty per cent., but frequently defrauded them in the repayment. The schools were protected, and the islanders were encouraged, by every means, to follow an industrious course ; whilst, finding that the State was totally unable to pay the contributions required from it, both for military works and the maintenance of the troops, Lord Nugent obtained the sanction of the English Government, in 1834, that they should be united in one sum of £35,000 a-year.* But all his endeavours for the public welfare could not shelter him from the abuse and slanders of those who felt the irksomeness of a government which inculcated the supremacy of the law. This ill-feeling at last broke out into a serious difference between the members of the Legislative Assembly, and Lord Nugent's successor, Major-General Sir Howard Douglas.

By one of the articles of the Constitution, it had been declared, that a temporary court of justice should be established and maintained, till such times as a new code of civil and criminal law and procedure could be framed and adopted ; further, that the Legislative Assembly should have the immediate

* Martin's Brit. Colon.

consideration of the enactments for the final adjustment of the said courts of law, whenever a message to that effect should be delivered by the Lord High Commissioner; and that this new code, if ratified by the protecting Sovereign, should be considered, to all intents and purposes, as forming an integral part of the Constitution. The Legislative Assembly which sat in 1839, having agreed upon this code, refused to allow it to be discussed by the Senate, owing to no mention of the Senate having been made in that particular article of the Constitution. Upon that objection having been stated by Sir Howard to the Secretary of State in England, the latter took the opinion of the law officers of the Crown; and their interpretation of the original contract was, that the Senate must concur with the Assembly in agreeing to such laws. If the Assembly had considered at first that their objection was valid, they knew also that the consent of the protecting Sovereign to the new code was necessary; and ought therefore to have been aware that, when the Crown objected to a ratification without the previous concurrence of the Senate, this latter body was understood to have been included in the disputed article, in virtue of its essential character as a select portion of the Assembly. But the opinion of the protecting Sovereign was considered of little importance; the Assembly would not admit of the

concurrence of the Senate; and the Lord High Commissioner proposed to receive the consent of her Majesty in Council to dissolve the Assembly. After much correspondence, that consent was given; the Assembly was dissolved, and a new one called, which concurred with the Senate; and the code is now the law of the Ionian Islands.*

When the Republic of the Ionian Islands was recognized by the treaty of 1815, it was merely intended that it should enjoy that municipal liberty which the Greek cities enjoyed under the dominion of the Romans: and the Ionians, in seeing their internal freedom permanently secured under the shield of the sovereign of the seas, consoled themselves for the loss of their external independence; which they well knew, by experience, to be delusive, fallacious, and dangerous for small and feeble States.† But if the Treaty of Paris had modified the independence of these islands, by placing them under the protection of Great Britain, and thus precluding them from any direct or indirect connection with foreign powers; yet it had given England the difficult task of furnishing a State, so peculiarly situated, with a free Constitution, at a time when it was scarcely prepared for municipal rights. Sir

* Mirror of Parliament, Sess. 1840, June 23rd.

† Parl. Paper, June 22nd, 1840. Mustoxidi's Memorial.

Thomas Maitland, with singular ability, reconciled these incongruities by establishing a Constitution which, possessing every appearance of freedom, in reality left the whole power in his hands.

A legislative body of forty members elected from the seven islands were to assemble at Corfú biennially. Of these forty, eleven consisted of the President and five members of the Senate, the four Regents of the larger islands, and one Regent of the smaller islands; these eleven formed the Primary Council, were chosen by the Lord High Commissioner from the first assembly, and *de jure* formed part of the subsequent one. This Primary Council drew up a double list of twenty-nine persons, which was submitted to the synclitæ; and, as the double list usually consisted of men friendly to the Government, or of people of so little influence, that such of the synclitæ as were inimical to the Government, preferred generally voting for the former of these, it was easy to form a subservient legislative body. From this body, six members were chosen to form the Senate; and, as a handsome pecuniary allowance is part of the senate-ship, it was of course patronage for the Lord High Commissioner; the places of these six were filled up by another double list. The Regents of each island are also elected from the Assembly, which is also

patronage ; consequently, the whole of the Primary Council obeyed blindly the will of the Lord High Commissioner. The Senate was divided into three departments : viz., general, political, financial ; each department having two senators.* The initiative of the Senate was vested in the President ; but each senator was only allowed once in the same Session of parliament to propose to the senate any project or any subject, with the view of submitting the same project for discussion to the Senate, and even that was to be done verbally. If the President disapproved of the motion, the senator was to reduce it to writing ; and, after being signed by a second senator, it was to be transmitted through the President to the Lord High Commissioner, who might veto it.† Any member of the Legislative Assembly proposing a motion, was obliged to give the Assembly notice of his intended motion ; it was then to lie on the table for some time ; and, if discussed, the third discussion was to decide upon it. If passed by the Assembly, it had next to pass the Senate, and then to receive the sanction of the Lord High Commissioner. If a bill was once rejected by the Senate, or by the Lord High Commissioner, it was illegal to introduce any

* Constitution, ch. ii, sec. 2.

† Ibid. sec. 1.

bill more than once again during the course of that session.* The Assembly meeting but once in two years, and then for not more than some thirty business days, the course of business was always left unfinished, and nearly all its time, on re-assembling, was taken up with recovering the thread of affairs. Besides, the public revenue of the Ionian States, being derived solely from the exported produce of the land, is precarious, and varies annually ; whilst the Assembly, being obliged to sanction the civil list for two years, could not foresee, or regulate, or proportion to the wants of the State, the means of satisfying them.† Having, however, so much the semblance of a free constitution, it inevitably excited the desires of many of the better educated of the community, for the more full enjoyment of those institutions, as they are known to be practically in force in other states, possessing a representative government ; but the successive clamours and intrigues of revolutionary zealots, or disappointed placemen, so embarrassed the Government of every Lord High Commissioner, that they were alarmed lest, by granting greater freedom, a spirit of anarchy should prevail. Yet, Sir Thomas Maitland had intended to fulfil the hopes which the charter infallibly tended to encou-

* Constitution, ch. iii, sec. 3.

† Parl. Papers, June 22nd, 1840. Mustoxidi's Memorial.

rage, whenever, by the general diffusion of knowledge, and by the acquired habits of conducting public affairs, the Ionian people should have become capable of sustaining the arduous duties and responsibilities connected with the administration of a popular form of government.*

Owing to the tranquillity and the improved sense of justice, which prevailed throughout the islands under the auspices of British protection; the people so far improved in the social scale, that Lord Seaton, in the year 1849, thought he was justified in carrying out Sir Thomas's intention, by proposing certain changes in the Constitution of 1817, by which a more popular form would be given to the Ionian Legislature;† and which would vest the control over the ordinary and extraordinary expenses of the country, in the Legislative Assembly. Although the first Parliament which assembled, after these reforms (May, 1850), made itself ridiculous by the unparliamentary language of its members; and notwithstanding that, entirely forgetting their position, as members of a protected State assembled to arrange its internal affairs, they, with an absurd arrogance, demanded an account of the then existing negotiations between Great Britain and Greece; yet,

* Parl. Paper, 1840. Letter of Lord John Russell to Sir H. Douglas.

+ See Appendix.

in these irregularities at starting, there is not consistent ground for discouragement: since it was not to be expected that, the first time the reins of Government were loosened, a people, naturally vain, would not go further than they should; but it is to be hoped that, in course of time, they will acquire the discretion and sense of decorum due to themselves as members of a deliberative assembly.

The chief opposition which the Lords High Commissioners have experienced, during their government, has proceeded from a portion of the Signori; who, like the famous Barnaboti, too proud to work, but not to beg, cavil at every improvement, from sheer ignorance. The blind policy of Venice, which contrived to check the least tendency towards their moral or intellectual improvement; and the vanity and pretensions fostered in their uneducated minds by the importance which Russia, France, and England, have attached to the acquisition of Corfú; have produced effects which can only be eradicated by an enlightened system of education.

It was with this view, that a University was founded at Corfú in 1824, under the patronage of a distinguished English scholar, Lord Guildford. But this institution, although gratifying to the pride of the people it is designed to benefit, practically works in a manner which, if not remodelled, cannot fail of proving most injurious to their in-

terests. What would it have been, if Lord Guildford had succeeded in carrying out his object of establishing the University at Ithaca ! Visionary ideas of academical groves, and of the birth-place of Ulysses, do not form young men to be useful citizens ; and, for one student who would have been sent from there, a hundred men would have been turned out upon the world, with their ideas confined to a barren rock and a few goats. At present, the state of things is, unfortunately, but little better. The study of the law is restricted to the small code in practice in the Ionian Islands ; and there is, most certainly, a shameful abuse in allowing men to practise as physicians, who, from the insignificance of the hospital, and the scanty opportunities which they can possibly enjoy for an anatomical experimentation, are, by an uncontrollable necessity, entirely ignorant of their profession : and so convinced are they of this themselves, that many of them proceed afterwards to study at one of the Italian colleges. Were the welfare of the Ionian Islands taken into adequate consideration, the public instruction should be restricted to that which, in France, is carried on in the *colléges* ; and it should be made a requisite for all candidates, previous to their being allowed to exercise the profession of medicine, that they should obtain their diplomas at a French or an English college. Not

only would the searching examinations, which come there as a matter of course, tend to raise the standard of the Greek practitioners ; but this system would in another way prove of important benefit to their country, by sending home men who, by study and travel, would have their minds enlarged, and be more or less qualified for becoming useful public men, as well as professional. The poverty of most of the upper classes, and their exaggerated notions of the expense of visiting foreign countries, deter many of them from doing so. A poor Corfiot noble cannot understand that, in France or England, he would find his equals in the many hard-working students of plebeian names ; and that his title of Count is not worth that of plain Mister in England. He wishes to mix in a society far above his rank ; and, in a short time, involves his patrimony in irretrievable mortgage. Would it not be of public benefit, that scholarships should be established at the Corfú University, where the successful prizemen should obtain what the French term a *bourse*, at one of the London medical schools ? This system might have the effect of saving their country the disgrace of seeing their medical men run away in a dastardly manner before an epidemic, as they did in the year 1850, at Cephalonia.

This system would, also, materially tend to lessen

the swarm of D.C.L. and M.D., who now infest* the several islands, and who, for want of employment, lounge about the streets, in a perfect state of moral, industrial, and professional idleness and vacancy, smoking their cigarettes, and discussing politics, of which they do not so much as understand the terms. This state of things becomes a matter of serious reflection, when the prospects of the succeeding generation are taken into consideration. According to the present law of inheritance, property is divided according to the number of children, *plus* two parts which belong to the father; and every child, on arriving at the age of maturity, can at once claim his share; so that the island will be, in a few years, subdivided into an innumerable multitude of small properties, which will barely suffice for the support of the proprietors. Yet so great is their pride and want of energy, that, as long as these two professions are open to all in so accessible a manner, they will be satisfied with sharing the profits, however small, sooner than exert themselves in any one of the thousand ways by which the Englishmen or French of the present day not only support their families, but bear a part in upholding the true glory of their respective countries.

* Out of six hundred and sixty-three electors for Corfú in 1849, one hundred and thirty-one were doctors.—*Off. Gazette.*

Lord Nugent, who, to the latest hour of his life, ever bore a sincere affection for the inhabitants of these islands, which he had once been called upon to govern, and who ever considered their faults to have been the effects of bad laws, was so forcibly impressed with these circumstances, that, in the last speech which he made to the Legislative Assembly, previous to his leaving Corfú, he said :* “ I strenuously recommend that every young man in the States should be sent by his parents to learn an active profession. And what are the most useful professions ? That of the law is doubtless an honourable and an useful profession, in a State which is governed according to known laws, to which men may appeal through their advocates for justice. But the profession of the law in these States is too much crowded. The business becomes of a petty sort ; trifling litigation is encouraged, instead of being repressed, among the people ; and the profession of the law becomes a less elevated, if not a less honourable, pursuit. There has been one branch of education, and a very useful one in a State, deplorably neglected here ; I mean that of civil engineering. I said it is a very useful one in a State ; it is becoming, by the progress of mechanical, of agricultural, and architectural improvement, by the advances in the making of roads

* Martin's Brit. Col.

and bridges and aqueducts, and by the different ways in which wealth is created and diffused through every country, daily a more useful, a more necessary, and a higher profession. It is applicable always and everywhere ; and even if his own country cannot employ the talents of a good engineer, which is very improbable, they are a property for the disposal of which almost every country that surrounds him affords a ready market. Let your countrymen never forget that, without a profession, it is difficult for a man to be independent ; and that independence is the only real nobility of man."

Many years have now passed away, since the Ionian Islands have been placed under British protection. They have had for governors, stern soldiers, able statesmen ; they have been tried with physical force, moral restraint, reforms, everything ; yet are they ever discontented ; and if their country prospers, it would appear to be in spite of themselves. The following letter, written by a Greek gentleman, were it not for the ardent patriotism which it displays respecting his unfortunate country, would appear to be a satire on the Ionians ; for, to any thinking mind, it throws into strong relief the ever-enduring ingratitude of the people towards rulers, who have so

well fulfilled their duty, by causing the laws to be respected by a people, to whom the name of justice is but of this age; and who, by a well-balanced taxation, have enabled this people to enjoy the full fruits of their labours.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "SPERANZA."

"Mine honourable Friend,

"I write to you from Zante, which I reached a week ago. My object is to give you an account of an election to the Municipal Council of Zante, which, as you are aware, administrates the local affairs of this island, conjointly with the Regent.

"There is not a citizen here but wishes the independence and union of the seven islands with Greece. Some of them, however, seeing that we have no moral or physical capability of governing ourselves; discouraged by the banditti which desolate our country; and struck with the symptoms of dissolution and anarchy which are breaking out in all directions; are endeavouring to gain time: the others, on the contrary, influenced rather by the desire of independence than by that of their country's welfare, and feeling persuaded that Providence will not abandon Greece, throw their whole weight into the union of the islands with the mother country. These latter denominate themselves radicals; pub-

licly call for the expulsion of the English ; and, for the sake of their cause, courageously dare the hatred of the authorities.

“ Three citizens forming part of this latter class, MM. John Lisgara, George Crenderopulo, and Demetrius Macri, lately presented themselves as candidates at the municipal election, and obtained the majority of votes.

“ *The British Government violated the law neither directly nor indirectly ; it had recourse to no kind whatsoever of corruption.* If, in the INDEPENDENT kingdom of Greece, a candidate for the House of Assembly had declared himself opposed, not alone to the House of Bavaria, but simply against the meanest of the Ministry, what effusion of blood would have arisen ! what falsifications of bulletins ! what frauds !

“ And yet it is said that we have a constitutional government ! and we are proclaimed as unworthy of a representative system !

“ Yesterday, I made a long excursion into the country. What a delightful sight ! Everywhere vineyards, orchards, golden harvests, cattle grazing, magnificent roads, villages full of prosperity.

“ What security ! what inviolable respect for property, both from those governing and those governed.

“ When contemplating the happiness of the Zantiots, and comparing it with the misery of us independent Greeks, I wept with grief.

“ Unfortunate that we are ! It is now nineteen years since royalty has been established amongst us, and we have security neither for money nor for property. Here you can proceed, loaded with gold, from one end of the island to the other without the least fear. At home, we cannot without the greatest danger go even from Athens to Kiphissia.

“ Here, what roads ! what joyous hamlets ! the children play, the women work peaceably within their dwellings, fearless of either the movable columns of official bandits, or of the bands of brigands.

“ Do the Zantiots purchase so great a security by heavy taxes ?

“ In no ways. In the Ionian Islands, no tithe, no internal taxes ; but simple duties on importations and exportations.

“ Such is the state of the ENSLAVED Zantiots ;*

* What a contrast is this with the state of Zante in 1790, as described by a man who had no interest in the matter :
“ By what I could learn from the traders, and a few other people, to whom I had an opportunity of speaking, the police is really shocking. The Governors are generally needy men, but, by accepting fines as a remission for murder, they are soon enriched, perhaps by the ruin of the

and such is that of us Greeks, said to be free, men who have poured torrents of their blood and piled up heaps of their bones to reconquer independence.

“Panajotti Soutzo has lived to envy servitude . . . Shame, a thousand times, shame, on the system which reigns in Greece.

“After having spent a loan of sixty millions, with four hundred millions of taxation, we have neither harbour, bridge, nor road ; we are a prey to robbery, assailed by pirates, infested with a thousand diseases ; and, far from enjoying liberty, we are bowed down under the vilest slavery !

“If you think it desirable, publish these lines ; perhaps they will do some good, being from a man who is no partizan either of France, England, or Russia.

“We have never been in so deplorable a state. Greece is at an end, if we do not endeavour to save her. Let her be the symbol of some amongst

widow and orphan. Is your husband assassinated, your father murdered ? Dry up your tears—your Governor is three guineas richer. Do you remonstrate ? For three guineas more you may let loose all the demons of revenge. Thus one murder produces another ; whole families are involved in destruction, or at least live in perpetual alarms ; justice never interferes, and society is of course destroyed.”
Tour from Gibraltar to Constantinople, by Captain Sutherland, p. 132.

us! Let her become the aim of our efforts during life! As for me, I will not cease to proclaim the truth, so long as I shall not see my country free and happy, under the ægis of royalty relying upon intelligence and virtue.

“If the last drop of my blood could contribute to raise my native land, I would give it with pleasure.

“PANAJOTTI SOUTZO.

“Zante, May 27th, 1851.”

CHAPTER III.

THE present native population of the island of Corfú may be divided into three distinct classes; the *signori*, the *citadini*, and *contadini*. With very few exceptions, the *signori* are of Italian origin; and, though some trace the settlement of their ancestors in Corfú as far back as the dominion of the Neapolitan princes, the greater part are of Venetian descent. Looking down on the agriculturist and the trader with all the proud ignorance of a Barnabotti, the present generation of nobles is pre-eminently one of place-hunters. To be a senator, to be styled "most noble," and to bear the badge of St. Michael and St. George, is the height of their ambition: but, as these can be obtained only by a few, any place, however mean, any salary, however small, so long as it is under Government, is thankfully received; and, as almost every situation,

even to that of under master in the college, is styled a Government appointment; the petitioning, the canvassing, the bribery, is unceasing. Under such circumstances, political parties are soon formed; successful candidates and their friends warmly supporting the Government, and the rejected party going at once into opposition. The latter may be classed into the liberal and Greek factions; that is, those who wish the islands to have an independent native government, and those who desire to be united with the present kingdom of Greece: but the former is daily giving way to the latter. Carried away by legendary tales which are industriously circulated by the disaffected, they look forward to the time when the scattered members of the Greek race shall be united again in one mighty empire.* As well might the Peruvians look for the return of their Incas! But, for what were those Greeks of old celebrated, and in what way can the present Corfiot signori be said to be connected with them? Let us listen awhile to one of those philosophic minds of Germany, who, after years of thought and study, send forth the deep truths of history which startle dreamers out of their visions.

“The Greek States,” says Schlegel, in his “Philosophy of History,” “have long since disappeared

* Address of the Legislative Assembly, April 11th, 1850.

from the face of the earth ; the republics, as well as the Macedonian kingdoms founded by Alexander, have long since ceased to exist. Many centuries — near two thousand years—have elapsed, since a vestige remained of that ancient greatness and transitory power. If the celebrated battles and other mighty events of those remote ages are still known to us, if they still excite in us a lively interest, it is, principally, because they have been delineated with such incomparable elegance, such instructive interest, by the great classical writers. It is not by the republican governments of Greece, nor by the brief and fleeting period of Grecian liberty, which was so soon succeeded by civil wars and anarchy ;—it is not by the universal empire of Macedon, which was but of short duration, and was soon swallowed up in the Roman and Parthian domination ; it is not by such features as these, that we mark out the place which Greece occupies in the great system of universal history, or the mighty and important part she has had in the civilization of mankind. The portion allotted to her, was the light of science in its most ample extent, and in all the clear brilliancy of exposition which it could derive from art. It is in this intellectual sphere alone that the Greeks have been gifted with extraordinary power, and have exerted a mighty influence on after-ages.”

Yet, in what did Corcyra conduce to this in-

fluence? In what science or art did she shine? Is it because she afforded Thucydides a melancholy theme for the display of that accuracy of political reasoning which has since become a model to statesmen? or is it because, in the short period in which Athens ruled over her, she received some of the rays of light from that central luminary of art? But, even if such a descent as forms the boast of the Corfiot was one which men could take a pride in, history tells us how vain would be the efforts to trace back a genealogy, entangled and lost in the maze of by-gone revolutions. When, century after century, hordes of barbarians devastated every province of the Eastern empire, and, at each invasion, left some of their wild warriors who preferred the sunny climes of the South to their own dark forests, in some cases even settling in such large numbers as to give their name to whole districts;* when, in more civilized times, lordly adventurers from France, Italy, and Spain, looking upon Greece as a land which was destined only to be parcelled amongst themselves and their followers, without the trouble of a contest, divided it into

* Ἐσθλαβώθη δὲ πᾶσα ἡ χώρα καὶ γέγονε βάρβαρος . . . ὁπηνίκα Κωνσταντῖνος ὁ τῆς κοπρίας ἐπώνυμος τὰ σκῆπτρα τῶν Ῥωμαίων διεῖπεν ἀρχῆς. Const. Porphyrog. de Them. 1, 2. Thema 6, Pelopon.

numerous petty feofs, and erected their baronial castles on every inaccessible height; when to these succeeded the remorseless bands of Ottomans, who, with fire and sword, soon spread their dominions from the banks of the Danube to the southernmost point of the Morea, crushing Frank and barbarian under an equal yoke: where are we to look for the descendants of the Greeks of old? Travellers tell us that, as late as the sixteenth century, Athens was but a castle with a small village; and that Sparta, divided by two tribes of the Slavi, the Ezeriti, and the Milingi, had not only lost her ancient name, but it was impossible to recognize the site on which she had stood of old.* Not only were the ancient race so intermingled with invaders from every clime as to be scarcely recognizable, but their language was fast becoming a *patois* of the very worst description.

Previous to the formation of the Eastern empire, the Greek language had already undergone some change; but the alterations became more marked in the ages immediately preceding the twelfth century, when the extensive colonization of the Slavonians in Greece caused a proportionate transition in the vernacular dialect of the country, and,

* Châteaubriand, Itin. de Paris à Jéru., one of the strongest advocates of the Greek cause at the Congress of Verona.

in course of time, the spoken Romaic became more or less intermingled with words of various languages, according to the geographical position or political state of the several districts. At Athens itself, in the early part of the fourteenth century, French was generally spoken. Threatened with utter corruption, the Hellenic was only saved by the general use* which was made of it in the church service, and by the liberal protection which the Venetian Government, narrow-minded as it was on many points, afforded to its literature. The only Hellenic school which Greece Proper could boast of, in the sixteenth century, was at Nauplia, the seat of the Venetian Government in the Morea; and the few modern Greek works which Martin Crusius and Ducange could obtain, were printed at Venice.

It is true that, at Corfú,† the Romaic in use is one of the most corrupt dialects, many expressions of

* Throughout Asia Minor, the Greeks generally use the Turkish in their church service.—*Leake's Researches in Greece*.

† M. Kodriká reckoned thirteen spoken dialects, of which he gave the Ionian Islands one (*Leake's Researches in Greece*, p. 441); but even there it may be said to be subdivided in the seven islands, for the difference is very great between the Greek spoken by the peasantry of Corfú and that of Ithaca or Cephalonia.

familiar use being denoted by Italian words with Romaic terminations and inflexions. This, however, is owing to the great intercourse between the Italian soldiers and mariners with the peasantry, and to the sycophancy of the upper classes, who, by neglecting their own language, have endeavoured to identify themselves with their rulers; and not to any influence exercised by the Government, which, on the contrary, encouraged the Ionians to distinguish themselves in the field of letters: and amongst the pillars of the Greek Church are numbered two Corfiots, Búlgari and Theotóki, who were amongst the first that endeavoured to raise the moral character of their countrymen, by placing within their reach standard courses of education in their own language. To these two learned men, the Greeks owe the largest share of gratitude; for, while they multiplied the protectors of learning among their countrymen, their example tended powerfully to dissipate those ecclesiastical prejudices, which had so much checked the progress of education.* Since their time, great improvement

* Eugenius Búlgari, born at Corfú, in 1716, was professor in several schools of Greece, amongst others, at the school of Vatopédhi, in Mount Athos. In 1775, he was raised to the Archbishopric of Cherson, by the Empress Catherine: this dignity he resigned in favour of his friend, Nicephorus Theotóki; and died at St. Petersburg, in 1806. Nicephorus

has taken place in reforming the Romaic ; but even yet, much remains to be done ; men of science being at a loss how to express scientific words in that language : and at Corfú itself, the course of law in Romaic has been delayed up to the present time, owing to the difficulty which was found in expressing technical terms.

Whether from a desire to mislead the people, or from ignorance, the present patriotic party carefully omit these facts : and endeavour to throw all blame on the Venetian Government, by affirming that it was a consequence of their connection with Venice, that they have been infected with the miasma of their municipal dialect ; and that the astute policy of that State effected the introduction amongst them of an aristocratic system, by creating privileged classes ; as if, previous to the occupation of the island by them, the ancient Republic of Corcyra had existed in all its primitiveness. Giving credence to these tales, many of the people begin conscientiously to look upon themselves as injured in their national

Theotóki was born at Corfú, in 1736 ; educated at Bologna and Padua ; and became head-master of the school of Jassy, in Moldavia : in 1779, he was raised to the Bishopric of Cherson, by the Empress Catherine ; afterwards translated to that of Astrachan, which he ultimately resigned, and retired to St. Petersburg, where he died, in 1800.—*Leake's Researches in Greece.*

rights, and, without knowing what they ask, desire an annexation with Greece. But with this narrow-minded spirit of intrigue, a Corfiot signor's political ideas end; and a Government appointment is generally found an effectual cure.

In private life, he imitates the Italian customs: spending his time at the Casino, and seldom frequenting his home except at meal-times. Fond of display, although perhaps living in a garret, he will sport his white kid gloves on the Esplanade, and display his person at the Opera. A gambler to the back-bone, he will in one night, spent at the nobles' club, lose his income of a month, and thereby further mortgage his small patrimony. Although confined by this narrow spirit to the intercourse of some particular clique, yet, even in this narrow sphere, the Corfiot signor prefers to waste his years, so long as he can live in the capital, leaving his olives and vines to the care of the farmer, who usually tills the land, giving a third of the produce as rent:* but distrust of the tenants' honesty usually induces the landlord to visit the country while the crops are being

* This mode of farming has prevailed in these countries from the earliest period. The *μερτικάρης* was known in the time of Solon as the *μορτυτης*, the *medietarius* of the Latins, and *métayer* of the French.—*Leake's Greek Revolution*.

gathered, to see that he is not defrauded of his fair portion.

The physical formation of the island, consisting, as it does, of a succession of height and vale, protected from the blighting westerly winds by a range of mountains, is peculiarly adapted, in that climate, for the purposes of agriculture. The valleys and low lands, which are well watered during the greater part of the year, would, if properly drained, afford rich crops of Indian corn or currants. The lesser hills, which are composed chiefly of argillaceous soil mixed with lime, would, at certain elevations, grow wheat, flax, or the vine; whilst the olive, which favours stubborn ground and rugged heights, would yield its supply in the rocky region of Salvador.* But the labour and attention which careful farming requires, is more than the proprietors have ever been willing to give. To counteract, as much as possible, this inert disposition, which was causing a serious loss to the revenue,

* The best oil in the Ionian Islands is from Paxo, which is literally a rock. Virgil well corroborates this when he says :

*Difficiles primum terræ, collesque maligni,
Tenuis ubi argilla et dumosis calculus arvis,
Palladia gaudent sylva, vivacis olivæ
Indicio est, tractu surgens oleaster eodem
Plurimus, et strati baccis sylvestribus agri.*

the Venetians made a law respecting untilled lands, by which they were to be bestowed on any informer who could prove that they had remained uncultivated for a space of five years; but, unfortunately, the proprietors, to anticipate any pretext for litigation, planted olive-trees in every direction; and the consequence was that the island became one large olive-grove. Yet, the Republic had reserved to itself the monopoly of the olive-oil market, and no Corfiot was allowed to export his oil except to Venice, which placed him entirely at the mercy of the Venetian merchants. In course of time, the subdivision of property caused these olive-woods to be portioned amongst such a multiplicity of small proprietors, that they were barely enabled to support themselves,* and had not the means of carrying out a more improved system of agriculture; so that, although numbering less than forty thousand souls, the inhabitants became entirely dependent on the neighbouring continent for their supplies of corn, cattle, and even poultry: thereby, towards the latter years of the Republican dominion, impoverishing the island to an amount of about £30,000 a-year. The annual produce of olive-oil was then only about

* In a census taken in 1802, out of a population, in the city, of 7529, 4599 were proprietors; and there were but 429 servants.—*Martin's Brit. Colon.*

two hundred and fifty thousand jars a-year, at an average price of 9s. 2d. a jar;* which gave about £110,000: allowing £30,000 for the amount of home consumption, which must be considerable among a people who make use of it exclusively in cooking and lighting, leaves £80,000 as amount exported. The produce of the salt-pans was about £3,000 annually; the wines, potteries, ox-hides, &c., added about £4,000 more; giving a total of some £90,000 as the local resources of the Corfiots, with which they obtained both the natural and the industrial productions which they received from abroad.

With respect to the first of these, they were dependent upon Turkey, for about £60,000 worth of corn and cattle; on the other hand, £25,000 did not pay for articles of dress and other necessities: and, as the entire annual amount of importations was calculated at upwards of £100,000, it therefore exceeded the exportations by about £10,000 yearly; to which sum must be added the duties both on exportations and importations, amounting to about £20,000 yearly.† From 1797 to 1815, the unsettled state of European commerce, and the successive changes of masters imposed on the Corfiots, naturally tended to discourage any

* Four jars make a barrel equal 8·76 imp. gallon.

† St. Sauveur, Isles Ioniennes, vol. ii.

improvements : but, even since the formation of the present Ionian Republic, and in spite of the endeavours which the Lords High Commissioners have made towards inducing proprietors to adopt a more judicious system of farming, their progress has been but slow ; and the olive plantations still bear an enormous disproportion to the rest.

As the produce of the olive crop, which used to be biennial, is now becoming very irregular,* and varies so considerably every year, averaging, at present, from five hundred thousand jars in sterile years to one million in years of abundance ; and, as the value of the jar depends not merely upon the produce in the island itself, but also varies according to that of Greece, Italy, and other countries ; it would seem as if the state of uncertainty and suspense, respecting their crops, in which the proprietors are kept throughout the year, were looked upon as causing a certain grateful feeling of excitement indispensable to their existence. But even this favourite tree is left entirely to the care of nature, being allowed to grow thickly planted and unpruned ; whilst the olives, instead of being plucked, are not gathered till they fall to the ground. This subject will, however, necessarily

* Report of the Ionian Islands, by Lord Seaton, 1849.

command attention, if the population multiplies in the present ratio; for the employment which the pruning and trenching of such a vast number of trees would afford, will, at the same time, be found requisite to meet the increasing demand by an increasing amount of productiveness. The oil is, besides, manufactured by means of implements so primitive as would hardly be thought creditable to the age of the Phæacians. A perpendicular stone wheel, revolving on a large horizontal stone of a circular form, and slightly hollowed in the centre, is set in motion by a horse, and bruises the olives, which are shovelled in by a peasant. They are then placed in a mat bag, and pressed by means of a clumsy screw; the oil* oozing through the bag into a hole cut in the ground: but the labour of turning the screw is so great, that two men will not

* The oil produced in the island may be classed under four qualities: 1st. The eatable oil, easily procured in good years, and which may be selected from that of 2nd quality, which is of a somewhat red colour, and transparent, and of a nature suitable for the manufacture of cloths and soaps, and is the ordinary oil current in commerce. 3rd. What is called *kernel oil*, because it is produced through the trituration of the stones or kernels, by causing them to pass a third time through the press. 4th. The last sort is black, thick, and cannot be put into casks till mixed with one third of kernel oil.—*Vaudoncourt's Ionian Islands.*

obtain more than from forty to fifty gallons of oil in one day.*

With a view to stimulate the energies of the people, the Government set up a small model farm, and went to some expense in order to obtain English farming implements; and, in 1835, a steam-engine with hydraulic-press was sent out, by Sir Edward Baynes, for the crushing of olives; having four pairs of stones attached, to grind corn: but the model farm became merely a point of excursion for visitors to the island, was soon forgotten, and is now a failure. In most British dependencies, this native indolence would have caused the introduction of foreign capital; but the privileged apathy of the Corfiots was guarded by a law which enabled the next of kin of any one selling his land to recover it at any time by the return of the purchase-money: this has, however, been lately abolished; and it is to be hoped that the present uncultivated lands which, in some districts, are not only waste, but, from want of drainage, absolutely pestiferous, will, in the course of a few years, become as healthy and productive as the rest.

On first approaching the island, the verdure and beauty of the country, which place it in remarkable

* Martin's British Colonies.

contrast with the rugged wilds of Albania, offer a prospect so pleasing to the eye of the stranger, that he feels little disposition to find fault with its olive groves and happy-looking peasantry: but, after having seen the admirable drainage of the valley of Zante, and the industry with which the Cephalonians appear to have sought out every nook in their Black Mountain that might prove capable of cultivation, the vines rising in terraces upon terraces, the earth having been absolutely reclaimed from the solid rock, which is used to build up the terrace; he will think it strange that a neighbouring island, which has been richly gifted by nature, should be so inferior through the inertness of man.

Besides the signori, who have their dwellings in the town, it is almost exclusively occupied by foreigners and Jews. The principal merchants and shopkeepers are Englishmen, Russians, and Sicilians; the petty traders are Maltese and Italians; and, occupying every position, from highest to lowest, are the Jews. When Benjamin of Tudela visited his brethren at Corfú, 1160-73, he found but one Hebrew, a dyer: and, although, under the Venetians, this people was interdicted several arts and trades, among which that of printing subjected them to a penalty which was rigorously carried out, yet they steadily increased in numbers, owing, chiefly, to the

protection which was afforded them against the ecclesiastical inquisition. But this protection extended only so far as their lives were concerned, for they were ever the jest and sport of the people; so much so, that, to ensure their personal safety, they were confined every night in the Jews' Quarter. Until the arrival of the French in 1797, any one of that race who ventured out of the Jews' Quarter during Easter week, exposed himself to the danger of being assassinated;* and that feeling is by no means diminished, being only kept in check by the strict attention of the police on these occasions.

Yet, although despised and insulted for centuries, and even at the present day wearing a distinctive garb, the Jews are now amply revenging themselves on their oppressors; for, since British rule has caused life and property to be held sacred, the power of the money dealers is beginning to manifest itself, and they are by degrees monopolizing the whole of the retail trade between the islands.

* At eleven o'clock on Good Friday, the Corfiots throw all their old pottery into the streets, and fire guns and pistols at Judas the rest of the day.

CHAPTER IV.

THE town, having passed through so many hands, presents, in its architecture, a most conglomerate appearance. On emerging from the citadel, the eye encounters the palace; facing which is the esplanade, skirted on one side, by a shady walk, and, on the other, by a somewhat handsome row of houses with a colonnade, under which reside the principal shopkeepers. Branching off from this colonnade, lie the three main streets of the town, which bear a strong resemblance to streets in France; whilst, at the further end of the palace, begins a street which, encircling the town on the north side, terminates at the market-place under Fort Neuf, where all merchandise is disembarked, and is still termed the "Line of wall." Connecting the Line of wall and the three main streets, are an

innumerable number of short dirty lanes; in the midst of which a visitor may, occasionally, remark some decayed old-fashioned Venetian mansion, with its colonnade and projecting stone balcony. The Jews still live separate, in the Jews' Quarter; but it is, happily, no longer closed up at sunset with ponderous gates and guarded by detachments. When the British first occupied Corfú, the streets were nearly impassable from the offal of butchers' stalls, and the litter of the venders of vegetables, who had been allowed to establish themselves promiscuously throughout the town: but, by a series of sanitary regulations, the streets are, at present, remarkably clean, considering the character of the population. The case is, however, different, with respect to the interior of the houses; for, with very few exceptions, they possess no convenience of any description; and a house which does, though of the commonest kind, is termed "English fashion," and brings a higher rent. As the town is situated many feet above the water level, it is astonishing that some better system of drainage should not have been introduced; and if the inhabitants were ever attacked by any epidemical disease, the consequences would be frightful. The Municipal Council is, however, much to blame in such matters, it being one of their regulations that no alteration whatsoever shall be made in any house without permission of the

well fulfilled their duty, by causing the laws to be respected by a people, to whom the name of justice is but of this age; and who, by a well-balanced taxation, have enabled this people to enjoy the full fruits of their labours.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "SPERANZA."

"Mine honourable Friend,

"I write to you from Zante, which I reached a week ago. My object is to give you an account of an election to the Municipal Council of Zante, which, as you are aware, administrates the local affairs of this island, conjointly with the Regent.

"There is not a citizen here but wishes the independence and union of the seven islands with Greece. Some of them, however, seeing that we have no moral or physical capability of governing ourselves; discouraged by the banditti which desolate our country; and struck with the symptoms of dissolution and anarchy which are breaking out in all directions; are endeavouring to gain time: the others, on the contrary, influenced rather by the desire of independence than by that of their country's welfare, and feeling persuaded that Providence will not abandon Greece, throw their whole weight into the union of the islands with the mother country. These latter denominate themselves radicals; pub-

licly call for the expulsion of the English ; and, for the sake of their cause, courageously dare the hatred of the authorities.

“ Three citizens forming part of this latter class, MM. John Lisgara, George Crenderopulo, and Demetrius Macri, lately presented themselves as candidates at the municipal election, and obtained the majority of votes.

“ *The British Government violated the law neither directly nor indirectly ; it had recourse to no kind whatsoever of corruption.* If, in the INDEPENDENT kingdom of Greece, a candidate for the House of Assembly had declared himself opposed, not alone to the House of Bavaria, but simply against the meanest of the Ministry, what effusion of blood would have arisen ! what falsifications of bulletins ! what frauds !

“ And yet it is said that we have a constitutional government ! and we are proclaimed as unworthy of a representative system !

“ Yesterday, I made a long excursion into the country. What a delightful sight ! Everywhere vineyards, orchards, golden harvests, cattle grazing, magnificent roads, villages full of prosperity.

“ What security ! what inviolable respect for property, both from those governing and those governed.

“When contemplating the happiness of the Zantiots, and comparing it with the misery of us independent Greeks, I wept with grief.

“Unfortunate that we are! It is now nineteen years since royalty has been established amongst us, and we have security neither for money nor for property. Here you can proceed, loaded with gold, from one end of the island to the other without the least fear. At home, we cannot without the greatest danger go even from Athens to Kiphissia.

“Here, what roads! what joyous hamlets! the children play, the women work peaceably within their dwellings, fearless of either the movable columns of official bandits, or of the bands of brigands.

“Do the Zantiots purchase so great a security by heavy taxes?

“In no ways. In the Ionian Islands, no tithe, no internal taxes; but simple duties on importations and exportations.

“Such is the state of the ENSLAVED Zantiots;*

* What a contrast is this with the state of Zante in 1790, as described by a man who had no interest in the matter: “By what I could learn from the traders, and a few other people, to whom I had an opportunity of speaking, the police is really shocking. The Governors are generally needy men, but, by accepting fines as a remission for murder, they are soon enriched, perhaps by the ruin of the

and such is that of us Greeks, said to be free, men who have poured torrents of their blood and piled up heaps of their bones to reconquer independence.

“Panajotti Soutzo has lived to envy servitude . . . Shame, a thousand times, shame, on the system which reigns in Greece.

“After having spent a loan of sixty millions, with four hundred millions of taxation, we have neither harbour, bridge, nor road ; we are a prey to robbery, assailed by pirates, infested with a thousand diseases ; and, far from enjoying liberty, we are bowed down under the vilest slavery !

“If you think it desirable, publish these lines ; perhaps they will do some good, being from a man who is no partizan either of France, England, or Russia.

“We have never been in so deplorable a state. Greece is at an end, if we do not endeavour to save her. Let her be the symbol of some amongst

widow and orphan. Is your husband assassinated, your father murdered ? Dry up your tears—your Governor is three guineas richer. Do you remonstrate ? For three guineas more you may let loose all the demons of revenge. Thus one murder produces another ; whole families are involved in destruction, or at least live in perpetual alarms ; justice never interferes, and society is of course destroyed.”
Tour from Gibraltar to Constantinople, by Captain Sutherland, p. 132.

us! Let her become the aim of our efforts during life! As for me, I will not cease to proclaim the truth, so long as I shall not see my country free and happy, under the ægis of royalty relying upon intelligence and virtue.

“If the last drop of my blood could contribute to raise my native land, I would give it with pleasure.

“PANAJOTTI SOUTZO.

“Zante, May 27th, 1851.”

CHAPTER III.

THE present native population of the island of Corfú may be divided into three distinct classes; the *signori*, the *citadini*, and *contadini*. With very few exceptions, the *signori* are of Italian origin; and, though some trace the settlement of their ancestors in Corfú as far back as the dominion of the Neapolitan princes, the greater part are of Venetian descent. Looking down on the agriculturist and the trader with all the proud ignorance of a Barnabotti, the present generation of nobles is pre-eminently one of place-hunters. To be a senator, to be styled "most noble," and to bear the badge of St. Michael and St. George, is the height of their ambition: but, as these can be obtained only by a few, any place, however mean, any salary, however small, so long as it is under Government, is thankfully received; and, as almost every situation,

even to that of under master in the college, is styled a Government appointment; the petitioning, the canvassing, the bribery, is unceasing. Under such circumstances, political parties are soon formed; successful candidates and their friends warmly supporting the Government, and the rejected party going at once into opposition. The latter may be classed into the liberal and Greek factions; that is, those who wish the islands to have an independent native government, and those who desire to be united with the present kingdom of Greece: but the former is daily giving way to the latter. Carried away by legendary tales which are industriously circulated by the disaffected, they look forward to the time when the scattered members of the Greek race shall be united again in one mighty empire.* As well might the Peruvians look for the return of their Incas! But, for what were those Greeks of old celebrated, and in what way can the present Corfiot signori be said to be connected with them? Let us listen awhile to one of those philosophic minds of Germany, who, after years of thought and study, send forth the deep truths of history which startle dreamers out of their visions.

“The Greek States,” says Schlegel, in his “Philosophy of History,” “have long since disappeared

* Address of the Legislative Assembly, April 11th, 1850.

from the face of the earth ; the republics, as well as the Macedonian kingdoms founded by Alexander, have long since ceased to exist. Many centuries — near two thousand years—have elapsed, since a vestige remained of that ancient greatness and transitory power. If the celebrated battles and other mighty events of those remote ages are still known to us, if they still excite in us a lively interest, it is, principally, because they have been delineated with such incomparable elegance, such instructive interest, by the great classical writers. It is not by the republican governments of Greece, nor by the brief and fleeting period of Grecian liberty, which was so soon succeeded by civil wars and anarchy ;—it is not by the universal empire of Macedon, which was but of short duration, and was soon swallowed up in the Roman and Parthian domination ; it is not by such features as these, that we mark out the place which Greece occupies in the great system of universal history, or the mighty and important part she has had in the civilization of mankind. The portion allotted to her, was the light of science in its most ample extent, and in all the clear brilliancy of exposition which it could derive from art. It is in this intellectual sphere alone that the Greeks have been gifted with extraordinary power, and have exerted a mighty influence on after-ages.”

Yet, in what did Corcyra conduce to this in-

fluence? In what science or art did she shine? Is it because she afforded Thucydides a melancholy theme for the display of that accuracy of political reasoning which has since become a model to statesmen? or is it because, in the short period in which Athens ruled over her, she received some of the rays of light from that central luminary of art? But, even if such a descent as forms the boast of the Corfiot was one which men could take a pride in, history tells us how vain would be the efforts to trace back a genealogy, entangled and lost in the maze of by-gone revolutions. When, century after century, hordes of barbarians devastated every province of the Eastern empire, and, at each invasion, left some of their wild warriors who preferred the sunny climes of the South to their own dark forests, in some cases even settling in such large numbers as to give their name to whole districts;* when, in more civilized times, lordly adventurers from France, Italy, and Spain, looking upon Greece as a land which was destined only to be parcelled amongst themselves and their followers, without the trouble of a contest, divided it into

* Ἐσθλαβώθη δὲ πᾶσα ἡ χώρα καὶ γέγονε βάρβαρος . . . ὁπηνίκα Κωνσταντῖνος ὁ τῆς κοπρίας ἐπώνυμος τὰ σκῆπτρα τῶν Ῥωμαίων διεῖπεν ἀρχῆς. Const. Porphyrog. de Them. 1, 2. Thema 6, Pelopon.

numerous petty feofs, and erected their baronial castles on every inaccessible height; when to these succeeded the remorseless bands of Ottomans, who, with fire and sword, soon spread their dominions from the banks of the Danube to the southernmost point of the Morea, crushing Frank and barbarian under an equal yoke: where are we to look for the descendants of the Greeks of old? Travellers tell us that, as late as the sixteenth century, Athens was but a castle with a small village; and that Sparta, divided by two tribes of the Slavi, the Ezeriti, and the Milingi, had not only lost her ancient name, but it was impossible to recognize the site on which she had stood of old.* Not only were the ancient race so intermingled with invaders from every clime as to be scarcely recognizable, but their language was fast becoming a *patois* of the very worst description.

Previous to the formation of the Eastern empire, the Greek language had already undergone some change; but the alterations became more marked in the ages immediately preceding the twelfth century, when the extensive colonization of the Slavonians in Greece caused a proportionate transition in the vernacular dialect of the country, and,

* Châteaubriand, *Itin. de Paris à Jéru.*, one of the strongest advocates of the Greek cause at the Congress of Verona.

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 and the Athenians, had not only lost her ancient name, but
 it was impossible to ascertain the site of which she
 had at one time been the most powerful state in
 the Peloponnese. Her ruins were now only a few
 fragments of walls and columns, and the site of her
 city was a mere desert.

The same is the case with the other cities of
 the Greek empire. The ancient ruins of some
 cities; but the situation of many more is
 in the great uncertainty. The ruins of the
 city of Athens, which the Greeks call the city of
 the gods, are now a mere desert. The ruins of the
 city of Sparta, which the Greeks call the city of
 the heroes, are now a mere desert.

The ruins of the city of Athens, which the Greeks
 call the city of the gods, are now a mere desert.

T

JOHN A

Son of Constantine
(Daughter of
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by his n

A daughter married to the Count of Zante, a Frank Baron.

ISAAC, married to a daughter of Alexius Branas.

THEODORE, married to a Petraliphe. 2nd Despot of Epirus 1216. Follows the fortunes of Theodore Lascaris. Leaves him to join his brother, Michael (the bastard). Seizes Peter of Courtenay. Crowned at Thessalonica, 1222. Taken prisoner by Azan I., 1236. Abdicates in favour of his son, John.

JOHN, Despot of Thessalonica.

DEMETRIUS, Despot of Thessalonica.

IRENE, married to John Azan II., King of Bulgaria.

A son, appointed Grand-Primecier at the Court of Paléologue.

A daughter, married to John Ducas, nephew of the Emperor John Vataces.

NICEPHORUS, 4th Despot, possessed of Thesprotia, Acarnania, Dolopia, Corfu, Cephalonia and Ithaca. Married in 1258 to Mary, daughter of Theodore Lascaris; 2ndly. to Anna Paléologue, niece of the Emperor Michael. d. 1293.

JOHN, married to a daughter of John Tornice.

DEMETRIUS, married to a daughter of George, 2nd of Bulgaria.

Daughter, married to John, Count of Zante, brings him Cephalonia in dowry.

THOMAS, 5th Despot of Epirus and Ætolia, d. 1318.

ITHAMAR, married to Phillip, Prince of Taranto, son of Charles II. of Naples.

in course of time, the spoken Romaic became more or less intermingled with words of various languages, according to the geographical position or political state of the several districts. At Athens itself, in the early part of the fourteenth century, French was generally spoken. Threatened with utter corruption, the Hellenic was only saved by the general use* which was made of it in the church service, and by the liberal protection which the Venetian Government, narrow-minded as it was on many points, afforded to its literature. The only Hellenic school which Greece Proper could boast of, in the sixteenth century, was at Nauplia, the seat of the Venetian Government in the Morea; and the few modern Greek works which Martin Crusius and Ducange could obtain, were printed at Venice.

It is true that, at Corfú,† the Romaic in use is one of the most corrupt dialects, many expressions of

* Throughout Asia Minor, the Greeks generally use the Turkish in their church service.—*Leake's Researches in Greece*.

† M. Kodriká reckoned thirteen spoken dialects, of which he gave the Ionian Islands one (*Leake's Researches in Greece*, p. 441); but even there it may be said to be subdivided in the seven islands, for the difference is very great between the Greek spoken by the peasantry of Corfú and that of Ithaca or Cephalonia.

familiar use being denoted by Italian words with Romaic terminations and inflexions. This, however, is owing to the great intercourse between the Italian soldiers and mariners with the peasantry, and to the sycophancy of the upper classes, who, by neglecting their own language, have endeavoured to identify themselves with their rulers; and not to any influence exercised by the Government, which, on the contrary, encouraged the Ionians to distinguish themselves in the field of letters: and amongst the pillars of the Greek Church are numbered two Corfiots, Búlgari and Theotóki, who were amongst the first that endeavoured to raise the moral character of their countrymen, by placing within their reach standard courses of education in their own language. To these two learned men, the Greeks owe the largest share of gratitude; for, while they multiplied the protectors of learning among their countrymen, their example tended powerfully to dissipate those ecclesiastical prejudices, which had so much checked the progress of education.* Since their time, great improvement

* Eugenius Búlgari, born at Corfú, in 1716, was professor in several schools of Greece, amongst others, at the school of Vatopédhi, in Mount Athos. In 1775, he was raised to the Archbishopric of Cherson, by the Empress Catherine: this dignity he resigned in favour of his friend, Nicephorus Theotóki; and died at St. Petersburg, in 1806. Nicephorus

has taken place in reforming the Romaic ; but even yet, much remains to be done ; men of science being at a loss how to express scientific words in that language : and at Corfú itself, the course of law in Romaic has been delayed up to the present time, owing to the difficulty which was found in expressing technical terms.

Whether from a desire to mislead the people, or from ignorance, the present patriotic party carefully omit these facts : and endeavour to throw all blame on the Venetian Government, by affirming that it was a consequence of their connection with Venice, that they have been infected with the miasma of their municipal dialect ; and that the astute policy of that State effected the introduction amongst them of an aristocratic system, by creating privileged classes ; as if, previous to the occupation of the island by them, the ancient Republic of Corcyra had existed in all its primitiveness. Giving credence to these tales, many of the people begin conscientiously to look upon themselves as injured in their national

Theotóki was born at Corfú, in 1736 ; educated at Bologna and Padua ; and became head-master of the school of Jassy, in Moldavia : in 1779, he was raised to the Bishopric of Cherson, by the Empress Catherine ; afterwards translated to that of Astrachan, which he ultimately resigned, and retired to St. Petersburg, where he died, in 1800.—*Leake's Researches in Greece.*

rights, and, without knowing what they ask, desire an annexation with Greece. But with this narrow-minded spirit of intrigue, a Corfiot signor's political ideas end; and a Government appointment is generally found an effectual cure.

In private life, he imitates the Italian customs: spending his time at the Casino, and seldom frequenting his home except at meal-times. Fond of display, although perhaps living in a garret, he will sport his white kid gloves on the Esplanade, and display his person at the Opera. A gambler to the back-bone, he will in one night, spent at the nobles' club, lose his income of a month, and thereby further mortgage his small patrimony. Although confined by this narrow spirit to the intercourse of some particular clique, yet, even in this narrow sphere, the Corfiot signor prefers to waste his years, so long as he can live in the capital, leaving his olives and vines to the care of the farmer, who usually tills the land, giving a third of the produce as rent:* but distrust of the tenants' honesty usually induces the landlord to visit the country while the crops are being

* This mode of farming has prevailed in these countries from the earliest period. The *μερτικάρης* was known in the time of Solon as the *μορτίτης*, the *medietarius* of the Latins, and *métayer* of the French.—*Leake's Greek Revolution*.

gathered, to see that he is not defrauded of his fair portion.

The physical formation of the island, consisting, as it does, of a succession of height and vale, protected from the blighting westerly winds by a range of mountains, is peculiarly adapted, in that climate, for the purposes of agriculture. The valleys and low lands, which are well watered during the greater part of the year, would, if properly drained, afford rich crops of Indian corn or currants. The lesser hills, which are composed chiefly of argillaceous soil mixed with lime, would, at certain elevations, grow wheat, flax, or the vine; whilst the olive, which favours stubborn ground and rugged heights, would yield its supply in the rocky region of Salvador.* But the labour and attention which careful farming requires, is more than the proprietors have ever been willing to give. To counteract, as much as possible, this inert disposition, which was causing a serious loss to the revenue,

* The best oil in the Ionian Islands is from Paxo, which is literally a rock. Virgil well corroborates this when he says :

*Difficiles primum terræ, collesque maligni,
Tenuis ubi argilla et dumosis calculus arvis,
Palladia gaudent sylva, vivacis olivæ
Indicio est, tractu surgens oleaster eodem
Plurimus, et strati baccis sylvestribus agri.*

the Venetians made a law respecting untilled lands, by which they were to be bestowed on any informer who could prove that they had remained uncultivated for a space of five years; but, unfortunately, the proprietors, to anticipate any pretext for litigation, planted olive-trees in every direction; and the consequence was that the island became one large olive-grove. Yet, the Republic had reserved to itself the monopoly of the olive-oil market, and no Corfiot was allowed to export his oil except to Venice, which placed him entirely at the mercy of the Venetian merchants. In course of time, the subdivision of property caused these olive-woods to be portioned amongst such a multiplicity of small proprietors, that they were barely enabled to support themselves,* and had not the means of carrying out a more improved system of agriculture; so that, although numbering less than forty thousand souls, the inhabitants became entirely dependent on the neighbouring continent for their supplies of corn, cattle, and even poultry: thereby, towards the latter years of the Republican dominion, impoverishing the island to an amount of about £30,000 a-year. The annual produce of olive-oil was then only about

* In a census taken in 1802, out of a population, in the city, of 7529, 4599 were proprietors; and there were but 429 servants.—*Martin's Brit. Colon.*

two hundred and fifty thousand jars a-year, at an average price of 9s. 2d. a jar;* which gave about £110,000: allowing £30,000 for the amount of home consumption, which must be considerable among a people who make use of it exclusively in cooking and lighting, leaves £80,000 as amount exported. The produce of the salt-pans was about £3,000 annually; the wines, potteries, ox-hides, &c., added about £4,000 more; giving a total of some £90,000 as the local resources of the Corfiots, with which they obtained both the natural and the industrial productions which they received from abroad.

With respect to the first of these, they were dependent upon Turkey, for about £60,000 worth of corn and cattle; on the other hand, £25,000 did not pay for articles of dress and other necessities: and, as the entire annual amount of importations was calculated at upwards of £100,000, it therefore exceeded the exportations by about £10,000 yearly; to which sum must be added the duties both on exportations and importations, amounting to about £20,000 yearly.† From 1797 to 1815, the unsettled state of European commerce, and the successive changes of masters imposed on the Corfiots, naturally tended to discourage any

* Four jars make a barrel equal 8·76 imp. gallon.

† St. Sauveur, Isles Ioniennes, vol. ii.

improvements : but, even since the formation of the present Ionian Republic, and in spite of the endeavours which the Lords High Commissioners have made towards inducing proprietors to adopt a more judicious system of farming, their progress has been but slow ; and the olive plantations still bear an enormous disproportion to the rest.

As the produce of the olive crop, which used to be biennial, is now becoming very irregular,* and varies so considerably every year, averaging, at present, from five hundred thousand jars in sterile years to one million in years of abundance ; and, as the value of the jar depends not merely upon the produce in the island itself, but also varies according to that of Greece, Italy, and other countries ; it would seem as if the state of uncertainty and suspense, respecting their crops, in which the proprietors are kept throughout the year, were looked upon as causing a certain grateful feeling of excitement indispensable to their existence. But even this favourite tree is left entirely to the care of nature, being allowed to grow thickly planted and unpruned ; whilst the olives, instead of being plucked, are not gathered till they fall to the ground. This subject will, however, necessarily

* Report of the Ionian Islands, by Lord Seaton, 1849.

command attention, if the population multiplies in the present ratio; for the employment which the pruning and trenching of such a vast number of trees would afford, will, at the same time, be found requisite to meet the increasing demand by an increasing amount of productiveness. The oil is, besides, manufactured by means of implements so primitive as would hardly be thought creditable to the age of the Phæacians. A perpendicular stone wheel, revolving on a large horizontal stone of a circular form, and slightly hollowed in the centre, is set in motion by a horse, and bruises the olives, which are shovelled in by a peasant. They are then placed in a mat bag, and pressed by means of a clumsy screw; the oil* oozing through the bag into a hole cut in the ground: but the labour of turning the screw is so great, that two men will not

* The oil produced in the island may be classed under four qualities: 1st. The eatable oil, easily procured in good years, and which may be selected from that of 2nd quality, which is of a somewhat red colour, and transparent, and of a nature suitable for the manufacture of cloths and soaps, and is the ordinary oil current in commerce. 3rd. What is called *kernel oil*, because it is produced through the trituration of the stones or kernels, by causing them to pass a third time through the press. 4th. The last sort is black, thick, and cannot be put into casks till mixed with one third of kernel oil.—*Vaudoncourt's Ionian Islands.*

obtain more than from forty to fifty gallons of oil in one day.*

With a view to stimulate the energies of the people, the Government set up a small model farm, and went to some expense in order to obtain English farming implements; and, in 1835, a steam-engine with hydraulic-press was sent out, by Sir Edward Baynes, for the crushing of olives; having four pairs of stones attached, to grind corn: but the model farm became merely a point of excursion for visitors to the island, was soon forgotten, and is now a failure. In most British dependencies, this native indolence would have caused the introduction of foreign capital; but the privileged apathy of the Corfiots was guarded by a law which enabled the next of kin of any one selling his land to recover it at any time by the return of the purchase-money: this has, however, been lately abolished; and it is to be hoped that the present uncultivated lands which, in some districts, are not only waste, but, from want of drainage, absolutely pestiferous, will, in the course of a few years, become as healthy and productive as the rest.

On first approaching the island, the verdure and beauty of the country, which place it in remarkable

• Martin's British Colonies.

contrast with the rugged wilds of Albania, offer a prospect so pleasing to the eye of the stranger, that he feels little disposition to find fault with its olive groves and happy-looking peasantry: but, after having seen the admirable drainage of the valley of Zante, and the industry with which the Cephalonians appear to have sought out every nook in their Black Mountain that might prove capable of cultivation, the vines rising in terraces upon terraces, the earth having been absolutely reclaimed from the solid rock, which is used to build up the terrace; he will think it strange that a neighbouring island, which has been richly gifted by nature, should be so inferior through the inertness of man.

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protection which was afforded them against the ecclesiastical inquisition. But this protection extended only so far as their lives were concerned, for they were ever the jest and sport of the people; so much so, that, to ensure their personal safety, they were confined every night in the Jews' Quarter. Until the arrival of the French in 1797, any one of that race who ventured out of the Jews' Quarter during Easter week, exposed himself to the danger of being assassinated;* and that feeling is by no means diminished, being only kept in check by the strict attention of the police on these occasions.

Yet, although despised and insulted for centuries, and even at the present day wearing a distinctive garb, the Jews are now amply revenging themselves on their oppressors; for, since British rule has caused life and property to be held sacred, the power of the money dealers is beginning to manifest itself, and they are by degrees monopolizing the whole of the retail trade between the islands.

* At eleven o'clock on Good Friday, the Corfiots throw all their old pottery into the streets, and fire guns and pistols at Judas the rest of the day.

CHAPTER IV.

THE town, having passed through so many hands, presents, in its architecture, a most conglomerate appearance. On emerging from the citadel, the eye encounters the palace; facing which is the esplanade, skirted on one side, by a shady walk, and, on the other, by a somewhat handsome row of houses with a colonnade, under which reside the principal shopkeepers. Branching off from this colonnade, lie the three main streets of the town, which bear a strong resemblance to streets in France; whilst, at the further end of the palace, begins a street which, encircling the town on the north side, terminates at the market-place under Fort Neuf, where all merchandise is disembarked, and is still termed the "Line of wall." Connecting the Line of wall and the three main streets, are an

innumerable number of short dirty lanes; in the midst of which a visitor may, occasionally, remark some decayed old-fashioned Venetian mansion, with its colonnade and projecting stone balcony. The Jews still live separate, in the Jews' Quarter; but it is, happily, no longer closed up at sunset with ponderous gates and guarded by detachments. When the British first occupied Corfú, the streets were nearly impassable from the offal of butchers' stalls, and the litter of the venders of vegetables, who had been allowed to establish themselves promiscuously throughout the town: but, by a series of sanitary regulations, the streets are, at present, remarkably clean, considering the character of the population. The case is, however, different, with respect to the interior of the houses; for, with very few exceptions, they possess no convenience of any description; and a house which does, though of the commonest kind, is termed "English fashion," and brings a higher rent. As the town is situated many feet above the water level, it is astonishing that some better system of drainage should not have been introduced; and if the inhabitants were ever attacked by any epidemical disease, the consequences would be frightful. The Municipal Council is, however, much to blame in such matters, it being one of their regulations that no alteration whatsoever shall be made in any house without permission of the

well fulfilled their duty, by causing the laws to be respected by a people, to whom the name of justice is but of this age; and who, by a well-balanced taxation, have enabled this people to enjoy the full fruits of their labours.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "SPERANZA."

"Mine honourable Friend,

"I write to you from Zante, which I reached a week ago. My object is to give you an account of an election to the Municipal Council of Zante, which, as you are aware, administrates the local affairs of this island, conjointly with the Regent.

"There is not a citizen here but wishes the independence and union of the seven islands with Greece. Some of them, however, seeing that we have no moral or physical capability of governing ourselves; discouraged by the banditti which desolate our country; and struck with the symptoms of dissolution and anarchy which are breaking out in all directions; are endeavouring to gain time: the others, on the contrary, influenced rather by the desire of independence than by that of their country's welfare, and feeling persuaded that Providence will not abandon Greece, throw their whole weight into the union of the islands with the mother country. These latter denominate themselves radicals; pub-

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licly call for the expulsion of the English ; and, for the sake of their cause, courageously dare the hatred of the authorities.

“ Three citizens forming part of this latter class, MM. John Lisgara, George Crenderopulo, and Demetrius Macri, lately presented themselves as candidates at the municipal election, and obtained the majority of votes.

“ *The British Government violated the law neither directly nor indirectly ; it had recourse to no kind whatsoever of corruption.* If, in the INDEPENDENT kingdom of Greece, a candidate for the House of Assembly had declared himself opposed, not alone to the House of Bavaria, but simply against the meanest of the Ministry, what effusion of blood would have arisen ! what falsifications of bulletins ! what frauds !

“ And yet it is said that we have a constitutional government ! and we are proclaimed as unworthy of a representative system !

“ Yesterday, I made a long excursion into the country. What a delightful sight ! Everywhere vineyards, orchards, golden harvests, cattle grazing, magnificent roads, villages full of prosperity.

“ What security ! what inviolable respect for property, both from those governing and those governed.

“When contemplating the happiness of the Zantiots, and comparing it with the misery of us independent Greeks, I wept with grief.

“Unfortunate that we are! It is now nineteen years since royalty has been established amongst us, and we have security neither for money nor for property. Here you can proceed, loaded with gold, from one end of the island to the other without the least fear. At home, we cannot without the greatest danger go even from Athens to Kiphissia.

“Here, what roads! what joyous hamlets! the children play, the women work peaceably within their dwellings, fearless of either the movable columns of official bandits, or of the bands of brigands.

“Do the Zantiots purchase so great a security by heavy taxes?

“In no ways. In the Ionian Islands, no tithe, no internal taxes; but simple duties on importations and exportations.

“Such is the state of the ENSLAVED Zantiots;*

* What a contrast is this with the state of Zante in 1790, as described by a man who had no interest in the matter: “By what I could learn from the traders, and a few other people, to whom I had an opportunity of speaking, the police is really shocking. The Governors are generally needy men, but, by accepting fines as a remission for murder, they are soon enriched, perhaps by the ruin of the

and such is that of us Greeks, said to be free, men who have poured torrents of their blood and piled up heaps of their bones to reconquer independence.

“Panajotti Soutzo has lived to envy servitude . . . Shame, a thousand times, shame, on the system which reigns in Greece.

“After having spent a loan of sixty millions, with four hundred millions of taxation, we have neither harbour, bridge, nor road; we are a prey to robbery, assailed by pirātes, infested with a thousand diseases; and, far from enjoying liberty, we are bowed down under the vilest slavery!

“If you think it desirable, publish these lines; perhaps they will do some good, being from a man who is no partizan either of France, England, or Russia.

“We have never been in so deplorable a state. Greece is at an end, if we do not endeavour to save her. Let her be the symbol of some amongst

widow and orphan. Is your husband assassinated, your father murdered? Dry up your tears—your Governor is three guineas richer. Do you remonstrate? For three guineas more you may let loose all the demons of revenge. Thus one murder produces another; whole families are involved in destruction, or at least live in perpetual alarms; justice never interferes, and society is of course destroyed.”

Tour from Gibraltar to Constantinople, by Captain Sutherland, p. 132.

us! Let her become the aim of our efforts during life! As for me, I will not cease to proclaim the truth, so long as I shall not see my country free and happy, under the ægis of royalty relying upon intelligence and virtue.

“If the last drop of my blood could contribute to raise my native land, I would give it with pleasure.

“PANAJOTTI SOUTZO.

“Zante, May 27th, 1851.”

CHAPTER III.

THE present native population of the island of Corfú may be divided into three distinct classes ; the *signori*, the *citadini*, and *contadini*. With very few exceptions, the *signori* are of Italian origin ; and, though some trace the settlement of their ancestors in Corfú as far back as the dominion of the Neapolitan princes, the greater part are of Venetian descent. Looking down on the agriculturist and the trader with all the proud ignorance of a Barnabotti, the present generation of nobles is pre-eminently one of place-hunters. To be a senator, to be styled "most noble," and to bear the badge of St. Michael and St. George, is the height of their ambition : but, as these can be obtained only by a few, any place, however mean, any salary, however small, so long as it is under Government, is thankfully received ; and, as almost every situation,

even to that of under master in the college, is styled a Government appointment; the petitioning, the canvassing, the bribery, is unceasing. Under such circumstances, political parties are soon formed; successful candidates and their friends warmly supporting the Government, and the rejected party going at once into opposition. The latter may be classed into the liberal and Greek factions; that is, those who wish the islands to have an independent native government, and those who desire to be united with the present kingdom of Greece: but the former is daily giving way to the latter. Carried away by legendary tales which are industriously circulated by the disaffected, they look forward to the time when the scattered members of the Greek race shall be united again in one mighty empire.* As well might the Peruvians look for the return of their Incas! But, for what were those Greeks of old celebrated, and in what way can the present Corfiot signori be said to be connected with them? Let us listen awhile to one of those philosophic minds of Germany, who, after years of thought and study, send forth the deep truths of history which startle dreamers out of their visions.

“The Greek States,” says Schlegel, in his “Philosophy of History,” “have long since disappeared

* Address of the Legislative Assembly, April 11th, 1850.

from the face of the earth ; the republics, as well as the Macedonian kingdoms founded by Alexander, have long since ceased to exist. Many centuries — near two thousand years—have elapsed, since a vestige remained of that ancient greatness and transitory power. If the celebrated battles and other mighty events of those remote ages are still known to us, if they still excite in us a lively interest, it is, principally, because they have been delineated with such incomparable elegance, such instructive interest, by the great classical writers. It is not by the republican governments of Greece, nor by the brief and fleeting period of Grecian liberty, which was so soon succeeded by civil wars and anarchy ;—it is not by the universal empire of Macedon, which was but of short duration, and was soon swallowed up in the Roman and Parthian domination ; it is not by such features as these, that we mark out the place which Greece occupies in the great system of universal history, or the mighty and important part she has had in the civilization of mankind. The portion allotted to her, was the light of science in its most ample extent, and in all the clear brilliancy of exposition which it could derive from art. It is in this intellectual sphere alone that the Greeks have been gifted with extraordinary power, and have exerted a mighty influence on after-ages.”

Yet, in what did Corcyra conduce to this in-

fluence? In what science or art did she shine? Is it because she afforded Thucydides a melancholy theme for the display of that accuracy of political reasoning which has since become a model to statesmen? or is it because, in the short period in which Athens ruled over her, she received some of the rays of light from that central luminary of art? But, even if such a descent as forms the boast of the Corfiot was one which men could take a pride in, history tells us how vain would be the efforts to trace back a genealogy, entangled and lost in the maze of by-gone revolutions. When, century after century, hordes of barbarians devastated every province of the Eastern empire, and, at each invasion, left some of their wild warriors who preferred the sunny climes of the South to their own dark forests, in some cases even settling in such large numbers as to give their name to whole districts;* when, in more civilized times, lordly adventurers from France, Italy, and Spain, looking upon Greece as a land which was destined only to be parcelled amongst themselves and their followers, without the trouble of a contest, divided it into

* Ἐσθλαβώθη δὲ πᾶσα ἡ χώρα καὶ γέγονε βάρβαρος . . . ὁπηνίκα Κωνσταντῖνος ὁ τῆς κοπρίας ἐπώνυμος τὰ σκῆπτρα τῶν Ῥωμαίων διεῖπεν ἀρχῆς. Const. Porphyrog. de Them. 1, 2. Thema 6, Pelopon.

numerous petty feofs, and erected their baronial castles on every inaccessible height; when to these succeeded the remorseless bands of Ottomans, who, with fire and sword, soon spread their dominions from the banks of the Danube to the southernmost point of the Morea, crushing Frank and barbarian under an equal yoke: where are we to look for the descendants of the Greeks of old? Travellers tell us that, as late as the sixteenth century, Athens was but a castle with a small village; and that Sparta, divided by two tribes of the Slavi, the Ezeriti, and the Milingi, had not only lost her ancient name, but it was impossible to recognize the site on which she had stood of old.* Not only were the ancient race so intermingled with invaders from every clime as to be scarcely recognizable, but their language was fast becoming a *patois* of the very worst description.

Previous to the formation of the Eastern empire, the Greek language had already undergone some change; but the alterations became more marked in the ages immediately preceding the twelfth century, when the extensive colonization of the Slavonians in Greece caused a proportionate transition in the vernacular dialect of the country, and,

* Châteaubriand, Itin. de Paris à Jéru., one of the strongest advocates of the Greek cause at the Congress of Verona.

in course of time, the spoken Romaic became more or less intermingled with words of various languages, according to the geographical position or political state of the several districts. At Athens itself, in the early part of the fourteenth century, French was generally spoken. Threatened with utter corruption, the Hellenic was only saved by the general use* which was made of it in the church service, and by the liberal protection which the Venetian Government, narrow-minded as it was on many points, afforded to its literature. The only Hellenic school which Greece Proper could boast of, in the sixteenth century, was at Nauplia, the seat of the Venetian Government in the Morea; and the few modern Greek works which Martin Crusius and Ducange could obtain, were printed at Venice.

It is true that, at Corfú,† the Romaic in use is one of the most corrupt dialects, many expressions of

* Throughout Asia Minor, the Greeks generally use the Turkish in their church service.—*Leake's Researches in Greece.*

† M. Kodriká reckoned thirteen spoken dialects, of which he gave the Ionian Islands one (*Leake's Researches in Greece*, p. 441); but even there it may be said to be subdivided in the seven islands, for the difference is very great between the Greek spoken by the peasantry of Corfú and that of Ithaca or Cephalonia.

familiar use being denoted by Italian words with Romaic terminations and inflexions. This, however, is owing to the great intercourse between the Italian soldiers and mariners with the peasantry, and to the sycophancy of the upper classes, who, by neglecting their own language, have endeavoured to identify themselves with their rulers; and not to any influence exercised by the Government, which, on the contrary, encouraged the Ionians to distinguish themselves in the field of letters: and amongst the pillars of the Greek Church are numbered two Corfiots, Búlgari and Theotóki, who were amongst the first that endeavoured to raise the moral character of their countrymen, by placing within their reach standard courses of education in their own language. To these two learned men, the Greeks owe the largest share of gratitude; for, while they multiplied the protectors of learning among their countrymen, their example tended powerfully to dissipate those ecclesiastical prejudices, which had so much checked the progress of education.* Since their time, great improvement

* Eugenius Búlgari, born at Corfú, in 1716, was professor in several schools of Greece, amongst others, at the school of Vatopédhi, in Mount Athos. In 1775, he was raised to the Archbishopric of Cherson, by the Empress Catherine: this dignity he resigned in favour of his friend, Nicephorus Theotóki; and died at St. Petersburg, in 1806. Nicephorus

has taken place in reforming the Romaic ; but even yet, much remains to be done ; men of science being at a loss how to express scientific words in that language : and at Corfú itself, the course of law in Romaic has been delayed up to the present time, owing to the difficulty which was found in expressing technical terms.

Whether from a desire to mislead the people, or from ignorance, the present patriotic party carefully omit these facts : and endeavour to throw all blame on the Venetian Government, by affirming that it was a consequence of their connection with Venice, that they have been infected with the miasma of their municipal dialect ; and that the astute policy of that State effected the introduction amongst them of an aristocratic system, by creating privileged classes ; as if, previous to the occupation of the island by them, the ancient Republic of Corcyra had existed in all its primitiveness. Giving credence to these tales, many of the people begin conscientiously to look upon themselves as injured in their national

Theotóki was born at Corfú, in 1736 ; educated at Bologna and Padua ; and became head-master of the school of Jassy, in Moldavia : in 1779, he was raised to the Bishopric of Cherson, by the Empress Catherine ; afterwards translated to that of Astrachan, which he ultimately resigned, and retired to St. Petersburg, where he died, in 1800.—*Leake's Researches in Greece.*

rights, and, without knowing what they ask, desire an annexation with Greece. But with this narrow-minded spirit of intrigue, a Corfiot signor's political ideas end; and a Government appointment is generally found an effectual cure.

In private life, he imitates the Italian customs: spending his time at the Casino, and seldom frequenting his home except at meal-times. Fond of display, although perhaps living in a garret, he will sport his white kid gloves on the Esplanade, and display his person at the Opera. A gambler to the back-bone, he will in one night, spent at the nobles' club, lose his income of a month, and thereby further mortgage his small patrimony. Although confined by this narrow spirit to the intercourse of some particular clique, yet, even in this narrow sphere, the Corfiot signor prefers to waste his years, so long as he can live in the capital, leaving his olives and vines to the care of the farmer, who usually tills the land, giving a third of the produce as rent:* but distrust of the tenants' honesty usually induces the landlord to visit the country while the crops are being

* This mode of farming has prevailed in these countries from the earliest period. The *μερτικάρης* was known in the time of Solon as the *μερτιτης*, the *medietarius* of the Latins, and *métayer* of the French.—*Leake's Greek Revolution*.

gathered, to see that he is not defrauded of his fair portion.

The physical formation of the island, consisting, as it does, of a succession of height and vale, protected from the blighting westerly winds by a range of mountains, is peculiarly adapted, in that climate, for the purposes of agriculture. The valleys and low lands, which are well watered during the greater part of the year, would, if properly drained, afford rich crops of Indian corn or currants. The lesser hills, which are composed chiefly of argillaceous soil mixed with lime, would, at certain elevations, grow wheat, flax, or the vine; whilst the olive, which favours stubborn ground and rugged heights, would yield its supply in the rocky region of Salvador.* But the labour and attention which careful farming requires, is more than the proprietors have ever been willing to give. To counteract, as much as possible, this inert disposition, which was causing a serious loss to the revenue,

* The best oil in the Ionian Islands is from Paxo, which is literally a rock. Virgil well corroborates this when he says:

*Difficiles primum terræ, collesque maligni,
Tenuis ubi argilla et dumosis calculus arvis,
Palladia gaudent sylva, vivacis olivæ
Indicio est, tractu surgens oleaster eodem
Plurimus, et strati baccis sylvestribus agri.*

the Venetians made a law respecting untilled lands, by which they were to be bestowed on any informer who could prove that they had remained uncultivated for a space of five years; but, unfortunately, the proprietors, to anticipate any pretext for litigation, planted olive-trees in every direction; and the consequence was that the island became one large olive-grove. Yet, the Republic had reserved to itself the monopoly of the olive-oil market, and no Corfiot was allowed to export his oil except to Venice, which placed him entirely at the mercy of the Venetian merchants. In course of time, the subdivision of property caused these olive-woods to be portioned amongst such a multiplicity of small proprietors, that they were barely enabled to support themselves,* and had not the means of carrying out a more improved system of agriculture; so that, although numbering less than forty thousand souls, the inhabitants became entirely dependent on the neighbouring continent for their supplies of corn, cattle, and even poultry: thereby, towards the latter years of the Republican dominion, impoverishing the island to an amount of about £30,000 a-year. The annual produce of olive-oil was then only about

* In a census taken in 1802, out of a population, in the city, of 7529, 4599 were proprietors; and there were but 429 servants.—*Martin's Brit. Colon.*

two hundred and fifty thousand jars a-year, at an average price of 9s. 2d. a jar;* which gave about £110,000: allowing £30,000 for the amount of home consumption, which must be considerable among a people who make use of it exclusively in cooking and lighting, leaves £80,000 as amount exported. The produce of the salt-pans was about £3,000 annually; the wines, potteries, ox-hides, &c., added about £4,000 more; giving a total of some £90,000 as the local resources of the Corfiots, with which they obtained both the natural and the industrial productions which they received from abroad.

With respect to the first of these, they were dependent upon Turkey, for about £60,000 worth of corn and cattle; on the other hand, £25,000 did not pay for articles of dress and other necessities: and, as the entire annual amount of importations was calculated at upwards of £100,000, it therefore exceeded the exportations by about £10,000 yearly; to which sum must be added the duties both on exportations and importations, amounting to about £20,000 yearly.† From 1797 to 1815, the unsettled state of European commerce, and the successive changes of masters imposed on the Corfiots, naturally tended to discourage any

* Four jars make a barrel equal 8·76 imp. gallon.

† St. Sauveur, Isles Ioniennes, vol. ii.

improvements: but, even since the formation of the present Ionian Republic, and in spite of the endeavours which the Lords High Commissioners have made towards inducing proprietors to adopt a more judicious system of farming, their progress has been but slow; and the olive plantations still bear an enormous disproportion to the rest.

As the produce of the olive crop, which used to be biennial, is now becoming very irregular,* and varies so considerably every year, averaging, at present, from five hundred thousand jars in sterile years to one million in years of abundance; and, as the value of the jar depends not merely upon the produce in the island itself, but also varies according to that of Greece, Italy, and other countries; it would seem as if the state of uncertainty and suspense, respecting their crops, in which the proprietors are kept throughout the year, were looked upon as causing a certain grateful feeling of excitement indispensable to their existence. But even this favourite tree is left entirely to the care of nature, being allowed to grow thickly planted and unpruned; whilst the olives, instead of being plucked, are not gathered till they fall to the ground. This subject will, however, necessarily

* Report of the Ionian Islands, by Lord Seaton, 1849.

command attention, if the population multiplies in the present ratio; for the employment which the pruning and trenching of such a vast number of trees would afford, will, at the same time, be found requisite to meet the increasing demand by an increasing amount of productiveness. The oil is, besides, manufactured by means of implements so primitive as would hardly be thought creditable to the age of the Phæacians. A perpendicular stone wheel, revolving on a large horizontal stone of a circular form, and slightly hollowed in the centre, is set in motion by a horse, and bruises the olives, which are shovelled in by a peasant. They are then placed in a mat bag, and pressed by means of a clumsy screw; the oil* oozing through the bag into a hole cut in the ground: but the labour of turning the screw is so great, that two men will not

* The oil produced in the island may be classed under four qualities: 1st. The eatable oil, easily procured in good years, and which may be selected from that of 2nd quality, which is of a somewhat red colour, and transparent, and of a nature suitable for the manufacture of cloths and soaps, and is the ordinary oil current in commerce. 3rd. What is called *kernel oil*, because it is produced through the trituration of the stones or kernels, by causing them to pass a third time through the press. 4th. The last sort is black, thick, and cannot be put into casks till mixed with one third of kernel oil.—*Vaudoncourt's Ionian Islands.*

obtain more than from forty to fifty gallons of oil in one day.*

With a view to stimulate the energies of the people, the Government set up a small model farm, and went to some expense in order to obtain English farming implements; and, in 1835, a steam-engine with hydraulic-press was sent out, by Sir Edward Baynes, for the crushing of olives; having four pairs of stones attached, to grind corn: but the model farm became merely a point of excursion for visitors to the island, was soon forgotten, and is now a failure. In most British dependencies, this native indolence would have caused the introduction of foreign capital; but the privileged apathy of the Corfiots was guarded by a law which enabled the next of kin of any one selling his land to recover it at any time by the return of the purchase-money: this has, however, been lately abolished; and it is to be hoped that the present uncultivated lands which, in some districts, are not only waste, but, from want of drainage, absolutely pestiferous, will, in the course of a few years, become as healthy and productive as the rest.

On first approaching the island, the verdure and beauty of the country, which place it in remarkable

* Martin's British Colonies.

contrast with the rugged wilds of Albania, offer a prospect so pleasing to the eye of the stranger, that he feels little disposition to find fault with its olive groves and happy-looking peasantry: but, after having seen the admirable drainage of the valley of Zante, and the industry with which the Cephalonians appear to have sought out every nook in their Black Mountain that might prove capable of cultivation, the vines rising in terraces upon terraces, the earth having been absolutely reclaimed from the solid rock, which is used to build up the terrace; he will think it strange that a neighbouring island, which has been richly gifted by nature, should be so inferior through the inertness of man.

Besides the signori, who have their dwellings in the town, it is almost exclusively occupied by foreigners and Jews. The principal merchants and shopkeepers are Englishmen, Russians, and Sicilians; the petty traders are Maltese and Italians; and, occupying every position, from highest to lowest, are the Jews. When Benjamin of Tudela visited his brethren at Corfú, 1160-73, he found but one Hebrew, a dyer: and, although, under the Venetians, this people was interdicted several arts and trades, among which that of printing subjected them to a penalty which was rigorously carried out, yet they steadily increased in numbers, owing, chiefly, to the

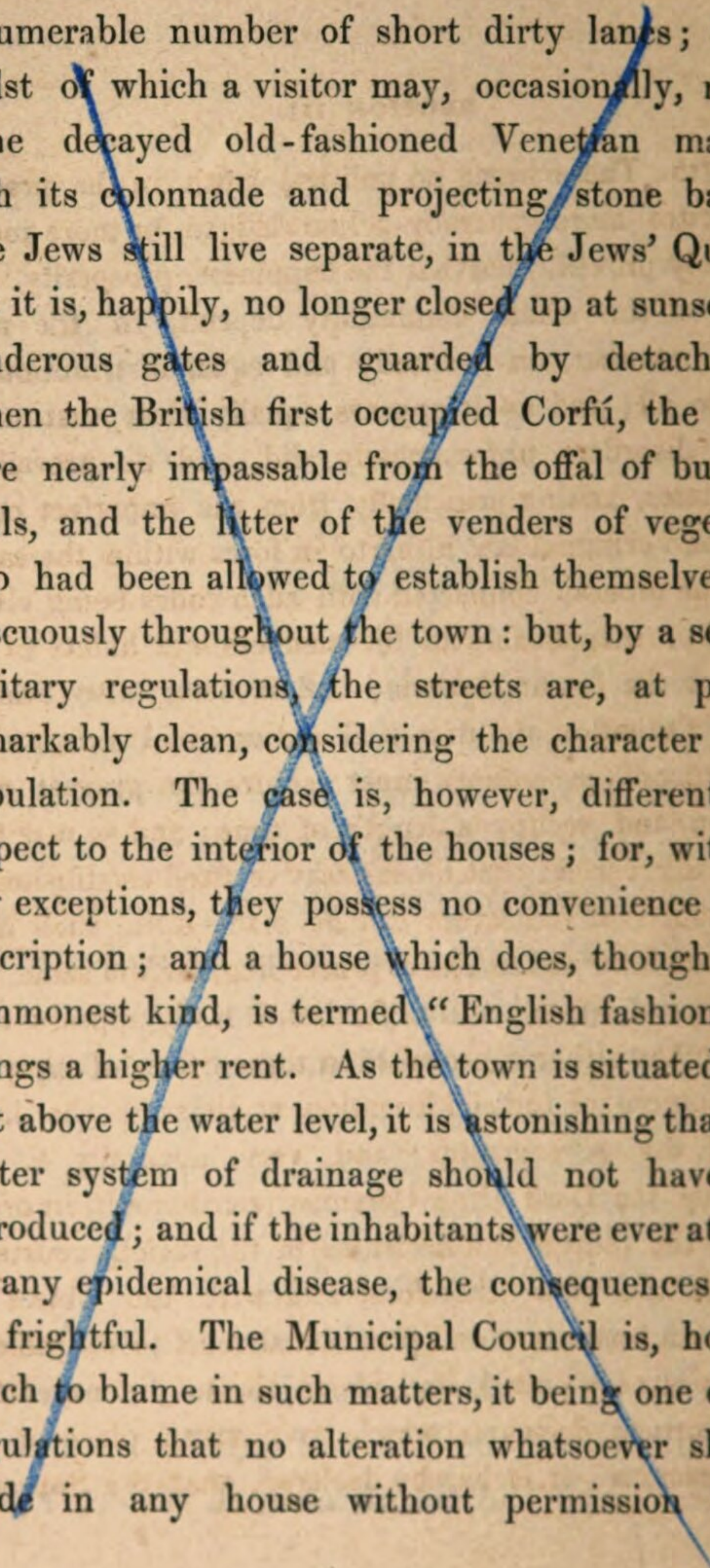
protection which was afforded them against the ecclesiastical inquisition. But this protection extended only so far as their lives were concerned, for they were ever the jest and sport of the people; so much so, that, to ensure their personal safety, they were confined every night in the Jews' Quarter. Until the arrival of the French in 1797, any one of that race who ventured out of the Jews' Quarter during Easter week, exposed himself to the danger of being assassinated;* and that feeling is by no means diminished, being only kept in check by the strict attention of the police on these occasions.

Yet, although despised and insulted for centuries, and even at the present day wearing a distinctive garb, the Jews are now amply revenging themselves on their oppressors; for, since British rule has caused life and property to be held sacred, the power of the money dealers is beginning to manifest itself, and they are by degrees monopolizing the whole of the retail trade between the islands.

* At eleven o'clock on Good Friday, the Corfiots throw all their old pottery into the streets, and fire guns and pistols at Judas the rest of the day.

CHAPTER IV.

THE town, having passed through so many hands, presents, in its architecture, a most conglomerate appearance. On emerging from the citadel, the eye encounters the palace; facing which is the esplanade, skirted on one side, by a shady walk, and, on the other, by a somewhat handsome row of houses with a colonnade, under which reside the principal shopkeepers. Branching off from this colonnade, lie the three main streets of the town, which bear a strong resemblance to streets in France; whilst, at the further end of the palace, begins a street which, encircling the town on the north side, terminates at the market-place under Fort Neuf, where all merchandise is disembarked, and is still termed the "Line of wall." Connecting the Line of wall and the three main streets, are an



innumerable number of short dirty lanes; in the midst of which a visitor may, occasionally, remark some decayed old-fashioned Venetian mansion, with its colonnade and projecting stone balcony. The Jews still live separate, in the Jews' Quarter; but it is, happily, no longer closed up at sunset with ponderous gates and guarded by detachments. When the British first occupied Corfú, the streets were nearly impassable from the offal of butchers' stalls, and the litter of the venders of vegetables, who had been allowed to establish themselves promiscuously throughout the town: but, by a series of sanitary regulations, the streets are, at present, remarkably clean, considering the character of the population. The case is, however, different, with respect to the interior of the houses; for, with very few exceptions, they possess no convenience of any description; and a house which does, though of the commonest kind, is termed "English fashion," and brings a higher rent. As the town is situated many feet above the water level, it is astonishing that some better system of drainage should not have been introduced; and if the inhabitants were ever attacked by any epidemical disease, the consequences would be frightful. The Municipal Council is, however, much to blame in such matters, it being one of their regulations that no alteration whatsoever shall be made in any house without permission of the

SECTION III.

Art. 7th. There being no political truth in the practice of all States more generally acknowledged, or more incontrovertibly proved, than that the happiness, prosperity, and welfare of the whole community depend, in the most essential manner, on a speedy and equal distribution of justice to all; and as it appears equally clear that many judicial disorders unfortunately did, and do prevail in these States, arising principally from the imperfect codes of civil and criminal law hitherto in force within the same, and of the process connected with such codes being either deficient or inapplicable to the manners and habits of the people of the Ionian Islands; and it being also evident that the formation of a new civil and criminal code, and of a new process (*procedura*), must require the gravest consideration, and occupy a length of time; and as it is further equally certain that no salutary or fixed establishment for the courts of judicature can be made until such time as adequate laws and modes of proceeding, for the same, are laid down *and defined*; and as further, it lastly appears, that a practice has hitherto prevailed in these States of applying in all instances of judicial litigation, at times, to the local heads of the governments, and very generally to his Excellency the Lord High Commissioner himself, in order to obtain the redress and decisions in the various courts of law: with the view, therefore, and with the object to administer a temporary and provisional relief to the judicial calamities already stated, and above all, to put an end to those arbitrary decisions which have taken place on so many occasions; it is hereby declared, that the Supreme

Council of Justice of the United States of the Ionian Islands, as constituted in Article 6, of the 1st Section of this chapter, shall possess the following powers, till a complete code of civil and criminal law, and of process connected with the same, can be framed and established; provided always, that such codes and process shall be ultimately decided on, and adopted within the space of three years, viz :—

1st. It shall, in its collective capacity, possess the power of framing the civil and criminal codes above alluded to, and the process thereunto appertaining and attached.

2nd. It shall regulate the mode in which the inferior courts of appeal in each of the islands shall be constituted.

3rd. It shall have the authority and jurisdiction over the whole of the United States of the Ionian Islands, and all dependencies of the same.

4th. It shall reside at the seat of the general Government, but shall possess the right of delegating its authority to certain of its members on circuit, through the several islands, when such delegation shall be recommended by it, and authorized by the Senate, with the approbation of his Excellency the Lord High Commissioner of the protecting Sovereign.

5th. The delegation on all such occasions of circuit shall consist of one of the Ionian, and one of the British members of its body, and in all such circuits, the Senate shall possess the authority of surrogating, with the approbation of his Excellency the Lord High Commissioner of the protecting Sovereign, one of the judges of these States, or any person learned in the law, to act during and on the circuit, as members of the supreme council of justice.

6th. The Senate shall also possess the authority of surrogating in like manner a second judge, or person learned

in the law, to fill up the vacancy in the supreme council of justice, at the seat of Government, of the Ionian member of the same who shall have proceeded on the circuit.

7th. His Excellency the Lord High Commissioner of the protecting Sovereign shall, in all cases of circuit, possess the power of also nominating an Ionian or British subject to act on such circuit as members of the supreme council of justice.

8th. His Excellency the Lord High Commissioner of the protecting Sovereign shall further nominate an Ionian or British subject to fill up the vacancy in the supreme council of justice at the seat of Government, in lieu of the British or Ionian member of the same who shall have proceeded on circuit.

9th. In cases when it may have been judged necessary that the supreme council of justice shall make a circuit, and where from any cause it may have been found impossible, or highly inconvenient, that two of the members of the same should proceed on the said circuit, in such case the surrogation of three judges, or persons learned in the law, in place of two, shall be admissible in form already stated: provided always, that the court of circuit shall consist of two Ionian subjects, and of two others, either British or Ionian subjects, and that the supreme council of justice at the seat of Government be filled up, in like manner, to a similar number.

10th. All decisions of the supreme council of justice, on circuit, shall be held valid, and recorded as the decisions of the supreme council of justice of the United States of the Ionian Islands.

11th. It shall possess all the powers inherent to the judicial authority, together with the latitude necessary to be exercised for the speedy and upright administration of civil, criminal, and correctional justice in all cases, and this too

where there may exist no codes of general and positive laws, no regular forms of proceeding, but when ruinous abuses and disorders prevail, and which it is its duty to correct and extirpate.

12th. The supreme council of justice being for the time the supreme judicial authority in these States, the heads of the local Government, and the principal secretary of Government, on the part of his Excellency the Lord High Commissioner, shall deliver to the same all the papers relative to any matter of justice now pending before them, in order that the same may be by it finally settled and decided.

13th. The definitive sentences pronounced up to the 16th of February, 1816, being the day of the arrival at the seat of Government of his Excellency the Lord High Commissioner of the protecting Sovereign, are not comprehended in the above clause, provided no petition, according to the actual forms, rules and regulations, is now before the local authorities, or his Excellency the Lord High Commissioner of the protecting Sovereign, regarding the same.

14th. It shall possess the power of alone deciding as a court of cassation; and all papers in possession of the courts of cassation, that have hitherto existed in those States, shall be delivered over to the supreme council of justice for its decision.

15th. It shall possess the power of judging, in all cases of complaint made by petition, of any violation of any forms directed by the ordinary process, or of any municipal laws, or existing statute and practice; but in all such instances, a special report shall be made by it to the Senate, in the view that the latter may take into consideration the necessity of punishing the judge or judges guilty of such illegal proceedings; but before any step can be taken to-

wards such punishment of the same, the sanction of his Excellency the Lord High Commissioner of the protecting Sovereign shall be necessary.

16th. It shall have a jurisdiction of appeal over all the other courts of appeal within these dominions, in extraordinary instances of judicial abuse and malversation, and the parties wishing to appeal direct to the supreme council of justice, without going through any inferior court of appeal, may so do, provided the other party concerned consents.

17th. The object of the institution of the supreme council of justice being to give redress in cases where the judges of the courts below may have erred in their judgments, or may have decided in violation of law, it is clearly to be understood, that it possesses the power and authority not only to adjudge the case, but also to decide how far the petition introducing such case is frivolous and vexatious, resting on no solid grounds, but brought forward for the purposes of delay, or of harassing the opponent; and in all cases declared by it to be frivolous and vexatious, it shall possess the power of imposing such fine as to it may appear just and equitable; and the same fine shall be adjudged to the public, or to the opposite party, according to its decision.

18th. The Supreme Council of Justice shall possess the power of deciding in equity, as well as law, in all instances which may come before it. It shall possess the authority, in its collective capacity, of regulating its own procedure, and establishing its own forms, and of directing such alteration or change in the procedure of the inferior courts (till the new civil and criminal codes are established) as to it may seem fitting.

19th. It shall, in its collective capacity, possess the authority of nominating its own secretary or secretaries, its own officers, and of electing its own ordinary President, and the ordinary President, thus elected, shall be termed, the

most Excellent the Chief Justice (*Prestantissimo Capo di Giustizia*); and shall take rank immediately after his Highness the President of the Senate of the United States of the Ionian Islands.

20th. It shall possess the power of adjudging all cases of public delinquency on the part of any of the functionaries of Government; but on occasion of exercising this branch of its jurisdiction, it shall consist of the ordinary members, and of four other persons—two to be appointed by the Senate, and approved by his Excellency the Lord High Commissioner of the protecting Sovereign, and two to be nominated, either British or Ionian subjects, by his Excellency the Lord High Commissioner of the protecting Sovereign. And in the event of an equality of votes in the council thus constituted, the President of the same shall have the casting vote.

21st. It shall have the power of controlling and taking cognizance of all advocates, attornies, procurators, notaries, and agents of all kinds, when judicially employed; and of punishing either by imprisonment and fine, or dismissing from their professions, any persons guilty of a breach of the respect due to Judges, or want of decency and decorum essentially necessary to be maintained, for the honour and dignity of the judicial establishment.

Whereas in the present Article provision is made for establishing a temporary court of justice, denominated the Supreme Council of Justice of the United States of the Ionian Islands, and for maintaining the same till such time as new codes of civil and criminal law and procedure can be framed and adopted; and which provision operates, for the time being, as a reservation to a future period of the adjusting the final Constitution in these States, as far as regards the judicial authority within the same: it is hereby declared, that whenever such civil and criminal codes and

procedure shall be framed, or when the three years shall have expired, for which the Supreme Council of Justice shall be established, the Legislative Assembly of these States shall, on a message to be transmitted to that effect by his Excellency the Lord High Commissioner, consider itself to be sitting for the immediate consideration of the said reserved matters of the Constitution, and all the enactments then made for the final adjustment of the two courts of law, and of a fitting civil and criminal code of procedure shall, in the first instance, (as in the instance of the Constitution itself), be submitted to his Majesty the protecting Sovereign; and it is ratified that they shall then be considered to all intents and purposes, as forming an integral part of the Constitution itself of these States.

CHAPTER VII.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SECTION I.

Art. 1st. The members of the Legislative Assembly of the United States of the Ionian Islands cannot on civil process be deprived of their personal liberty when parliament has met.

Art. 2nd. His Highness the President of the Senate of the United States of the Ionian Islands, the senators thereof, and the Regents of the different islands composing the said States, shall be equally protected against the loss of personal liberty or civil process, during the time of their holding their high employs.

Art. 13th. His Highness the President of the Senate cannot

in any way be suspended from office, during the period he remains in that situation.

Art. 14th. His Highness the President of the Senate may be impeached for any malversation in office, within six months after he shall have retired from the same; provided always, that the Legislative Assembly shall, by a vote of at least twenty-six of its members, concur in the propriety of the measure, and that the Senate and his Excellency the Lord High Commissioner of the protecting Sovereign, shall also agree to the same.

SECTION II.

Art. 1st. The military defence of the United States of the Ionian Islands being placed in the hands of the protecting Sovereign, the sole regular military establishment shall consist of the forces of his Majesty.

Art. 2nd. Independent of the regular troops of his Majesty the protecting Sovereign, there shall be established in each island a corps of militia.

Art. 3rd. The organisation of the militia of the United States of the Ionian Islands shall be left to the Commander in Chief of the Forces of the protecting Sovereign, within the same, subject to the approbation of the Senate, and of his Excellency the Lord High Commissioner of the protecting Sovereign.

Art. 4th. The general charge of preserving the tranquillity of the country being immediately and directly connected with the military establishment, the high police of the United States of the Ionian Islands shall be placed under the direct management of his Excellency the Lord High Commissioner of the protecting Sovereign, and of his Majesty's Commander-in-Chief.

Art. 5th. No officer can be appointed to any corps of the militia of the Ionian Islands, who is not a native-born subject of the same.

Art. 6th. His Majesty the protecting Sovereign shall appoint inspectors and sub-inspectors of the militia of the Ionian States, who shall be either British or Ionian officers.

Art. 7th. The corps of the militia of each island shall be placed under the control of the inspectors or sub-inspectors of the militia, appointed by his Majesty the protecting Sovereign.

Art. 8th. The regular forces of his Majesty the protecting Sovereign shall, in all instances of civil suit, be amenable to the laws of the land within the United States of the Ionian Islands.

Art. 9th. The regular forces of the protecting Sovereign in these States shall, in respect to criminal jurisdiction, be alone subject to the martial law of his Majesty.

Art. 10th. The militia within these States, is, of course, subject to the laws of the land; but when it shall have been duly organized, and called out, it shall be amenable to the martial law of the protecting power, and liable, by it alone, to be tried for criminal offences.

Art. 11th. The regular established members of his Majesty's troops for the garrison of these islands shall be considered as consisting of three thousand men, but it shall be competent to increase or diminish that number, as his Majesty's Commander-in-Chief may deem fitting.

Art. 12. All expense of quartering the regular forces of his Majesty the protecting Sovereign, and, generally speaking, all military expense of every kind to be incurred by these States (as far as relates to the three thousand men above-named) shall be paid out of the general treasury of the same.



innumerable number of short dirty lanes; in the midst of which a visitor may, occasionally, remark some decayed old-fashioned Venetian mansion, with its colonnade and projecting stone balcony. The Jews still live separate, in the Jews' Quarter; but it is, happily, no longer closed up at sunset with ponderous gates and guarded by detachments. When the British first occupied Corfú, the streets were nearly impassable from the offal of butchers' stalls, and the litter of the venders of vegetables, who had been allowed to establish themselves promiscuously throughout the town: but, by a series of sanitary regulations, the streets are, at present, remarkably clean, considering the character of the population. The case is, however, different, with respect to the interior of the houses; for, with very few exceptions, they possess no convenience of any description; and a house which does, though of the commonest kind, is termed "English fashion," and brings a higher rent. As the town is situated many feet above the water level, it is astonishing that some better system of drainage should not have been introduced; and if the inhabitants were ever attacked by any epidemical disease, the consequences would be frightful. The Municipal Council is, however, much to blame in such matters, it being one of their regulations that no alteration whatsoever shall be made in any house without permission of the

SECTION III.

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H.

RETURN OF EXPENDITURE INCURRED IN THE IONIAN ISLANDS
FOR ORDNANCE WORKS SINCE THE PEACE, DISTINGUISHING
WHAT PORTION OF IT HAS BEEN DEFRAIDED BY GREAT
BRITAIN, AND WHAT PORTION BY THE IONIAN ISLANDS:

Year.	New works : Ordnance.	Works and repairs.	New works : Barracks.	Building and repair of barracks.	Totals.	Contri- bution.
	£	£		£	£	£
1815	—	—	—	—	—	—
1816	—	—	—	—	—	—
1817	—	2,000	—	—	2,000	—
1818	—	2,000	—	—	2,000	—
1819	—	3,897	—	—	3,897	—
1820	—	4,463	—	—	4,463	—
1821	—	3,000	—	—	3,000	—
1822	—	3,063	—	—	3,063	—
1823	—	2,263	—	—	2,263	—
1824	—	815	—	—	815	—
1825	6,165	676	—	—	6,841	4,556
1826	24,043	1,016	—	—	25,059	12,943
1827	16,902	986	—	—	17,888	21,436
1828	26,436	967	—	—	27,403	22,121
1829	24,577	989	—	—	25,566	24,330
1830	31,400	989	—	—	32,469	28,578
1831	19,014	736	—	—	19,750	24,387
1832—3	18,537	1,200	—	1,106	20,843	16,971
1833—4	17,064	1,710	—	—	18,774	14,700
1834—5	16,308	1,732	—	—	18,040	22,004
1835—6	13,267	1,635	—	—	14,902	15,243
1836—7	7,230	1,533	—	—	8,763	6,787
1837—8	7,401	1,533	—	4,369	13,393	151
1838—9	10,764	1,334	—	818	12,916	18,750
1839—40	13,787	1,690	—	5,800	21,277	119
1840—1	13,431	2,880	—	4,587	20,898	6,250
1841—2	14,121	2,257	—	4,900	21,278	—
1842—3	11,968	4,456	—	4,900	21,324	25,000
1843—4	14,017	2,410	—	4,387	20,814	12,500
1844—5	8,500	2,042	—	8,943	19,485	—
1845—6	9,043	2,438	—	1,600	13,081	17,336
1846—7	9,457	2,079	—	1,751	13,287	4,250
1847—8	13,302	3,297	—	4,250	20,849	9,215
	£346,814	£62,086	—	£47,411	£456,311	£307,627
Deduct contributions					307,627	
Total expenses defrayed by Great Britain					£148,624	

(SIGNED)

GEORGE ANSON.

I.

1. A large addition to the constituent body.
2. Increase of the representative body from forty to forty-two.
3. Abandonment by the Crown of the eleven seats, hitherto filled upon a dissolution by the members of the Primary Council.
4. Abolition of the Primary Council itself, and of the double list system, which virtually gave to the Government the power of selecting the candidates at each election, and the substitution of a perfectly free electoral system.
5. Vote by ballot. This was the most valuable reform they got ; for, owing to the incredible extent to which mortgage and usury is carried on, the mass of electors are mostly dependent upon a few rich men, to whom they did not dare to refuse a vote.

THE END.

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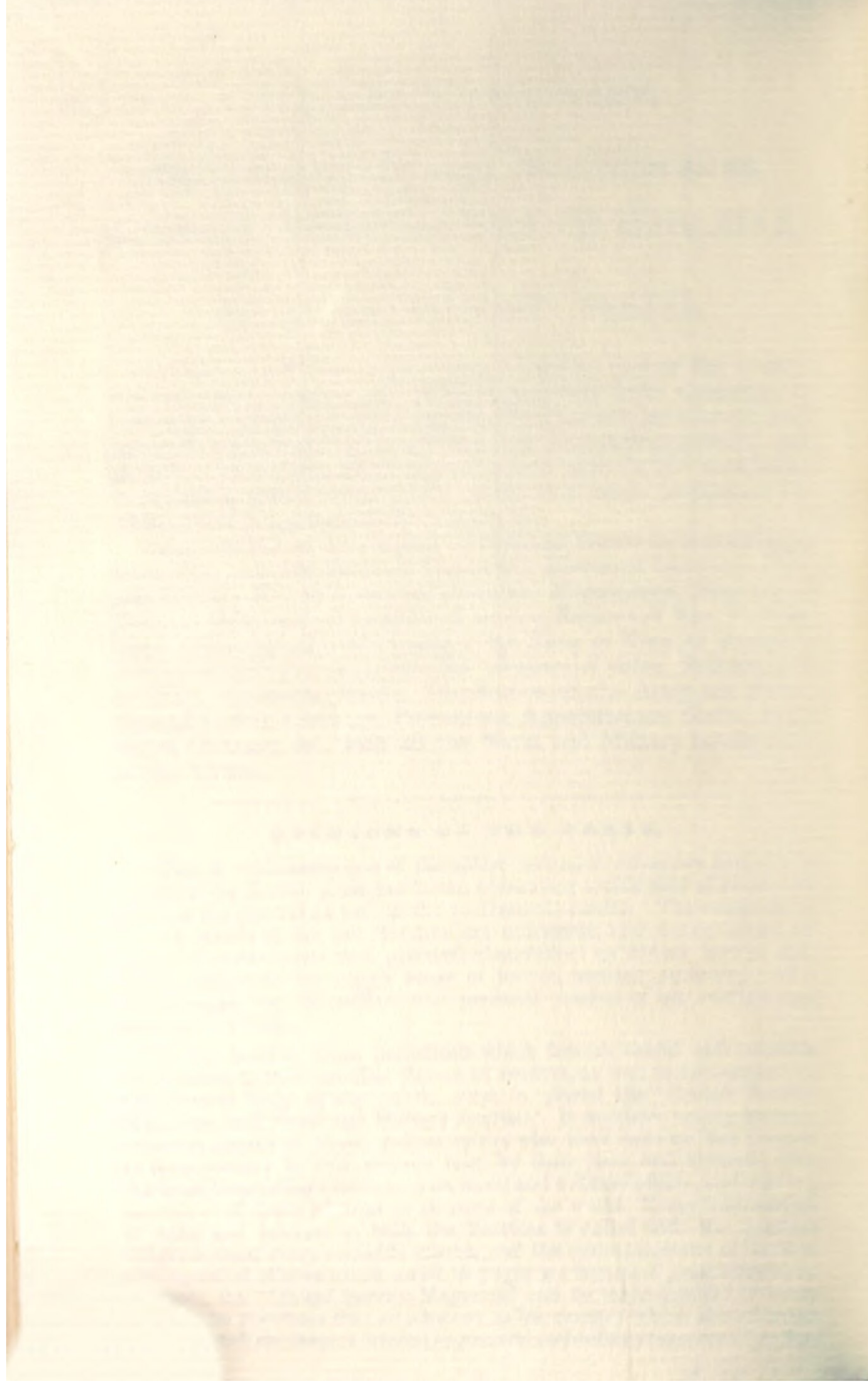
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